The Journal

OF THE

Jamaica Agricultural Society.

VOL. XIII. AUGUST, 1909. No. 8.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

THE usual monthly meeting of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society was held at the office of the Society, No. 11 North Parade, on Thursday, 15th July, 1909, at 11.40 a.m. Present : Hon. Dr. Pringle, C.M.G., Vice-president, in the chair, Hons. L. J. Bertram, C.M.G., and R. P. Simmonds, Messrs. R. Craig, D. Campbell, C. A. T. Fursdon, William Harris, Acting Director of Agriculture, A. C. L. Martin, J. Shore, and the Secretary, Jno. Barclay.

Letters of apology for absence were read from His Grace the Archbishop, His Lordship Bishop Collins, who intimated that he would be off the island for six weeks, Hon. Geo. McGrath, Messrs. E. W. Muirhead, who telegraphed to say he had missed the train, Conrad Watson and J. R. Williams.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been printed and circulated were taken as read. Mr. Craig asked that the words "which was equal" in the sentence after the word "vote," in connection with the appointment of the Instructor in St. Elizabeth, should be added. This was agreed to, and the minutes were then confirmed.

The following matters arising out of minutes were considered:

(a) Arrangements for Instructors. The Secretary submitted a minute as follows :—

The new Instructors appointed all accepted their appointments on the terms agreed upon by the Board of Management.

Mr. Wates, the Agricultural Instructor for Portland, attended the show at St. Margaret's Bay on 24th June. He there met with Mr. Cradwick, Mr. Briscoe and myself, and got initiated into show work.

Mr. Arnett, although presumed to be on holiday in July, has assisted in initiating Mr. Levy in some of his work in Trelawny.

Mr. E. J. Smith duly sent his Itinerary for July, and started work promptly. The exact boundary line of his district and Mr. Palache's has been left open meantime. Both the Santa Cruz Mountains Branch at Malvern and the Lititz and Nain Branch have intimated that they prefer to be included in Mr. Palache's district as they have not desired any new Instructor.

I am keeping closely in touch with Mr. Smith, and am arranging for supplies of corn, peas, etc., for the assistance of distressed cultivators, for planting in August and September. Mr. Smith is also arranging to start the Experiment Grounds for planting in August and September.—JNO. BARCLAY, Secretary.

(b) **Cocoa Disease.** The Secretary submitted letter from C. S. O., No. 6482/7420, 23rd June, as follows :—

I am directed by the Acting Governor to transmit for the information of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, copy of correspondence which has recently passed between the St. George's Agricultural Society and the Government respecting Black Rot disease among cocoa in Portland.

I am to say that the cocoa industry is assuming important proportions in the colony, the area in cultivation returned in 1907-08 being 8,290 acres, or 1,848 acres more than the average for the preceding four years. While the quantity exported in 1907-08 was 47,469cwt., or 25,461cwt. more than in 1903-04. It is advisable that the producers of cocoa should be made acquainted with the symptoms and treatment of the diseases to which the plantations are liable, and I am to say that His Excellency would be glad if the Jamaica Agricultural Society would assist as far as possible in disseminating information on the subject.

I am further to say that the question had for some years engaged the attention of the Imperial Department of Agriculture in other West Indian Islands, with the result that the pamphlet entitled "The Sanitation of Cocoa Orchards," was prepared by Mr. F. A. Stockdale, B.A., F.L.S., the Mycologist on the staff of the Department, and a shorter treatise entitled "The Principal Fungus Diseases of Cocoa," intended for general distribution in St. Lucia and other cocoa-producing islands, was also prepared by the same officer.—ROBERT JOHNSTONE, Acting Colonial Secretary.

The communications enclosed having been published in the press, were taken as read.

The Secretary read his reply as follows :—

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 6482/7420 of date 23rd instant, with reference to the cocoa industry.

2. I have to say, for the information of His Excellency, that the Instructors of the Agricultural Society have had copies of the publications referred to, written by Mr. Stockdale, and that quotations from the same were made in the AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL for October, 1908, and November, 1908, and attention again drawn to the booklets by Mr. Stockdale on page 167 of the JOURNAL for May, 1909, that we had them for sale. Further attention will be drawn to the matter in the following JOURNALS.

3. I enclose marked copies of the JOURNALS referred to for His Excellency's information.—JNO. BARCLAY, Secretary.

C. S. O. No. 7108/8509 10th July, 1909.

In continuation of my letter 6482/7420 of the 23rd ultimo, I am directed by the Acting Governor to transmit herewith for the information of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, a copy of a letter from the Acting Director of Agriculture, reporting the various cocoa diseases which Mr. Cradwick observed in Portland.—ROBT. JOHNSTONE, Acting Colonial Secretary.

Department of Agriculture,

Hope Gardens, Kingston P.O., Jamaica, 30th June, 1909.

I have the honour to inform you that in accordance with the second paragraph of your letter No. 6114/7420 of the 15th instant, I asked Mr. Cradwick to make a list of the various cocoa diseases he had observed.

Mr. Cradwick now reports as follows :—"Besides the Pod Disease, I have observed in Portland, Canker, Die-back, Root-disease."—(Sgd.) W. HARRIS, Acting Director of Agriculture.

(c) Day of Board Meeting. The Secretary said that he had inquired again of all the members of the Board of Management, as to which day of the week and which week of the month, would suit them best for the Board meeting, and with the exception of His Grace the Archbishop and Mr. Williams, they all agreed that the date as at present arranged, was the most suitable time.

The following letters from the C. S. O. were submitted :—

(a) Jamaica Rum. No. 6372/S.S.132/09—21st June, 1909.

With reference to the enclosures to the despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies dated 25th July, 1908, referred to your Society on the 22nd August, and dealt with by Mr. Cousins at the request of your Society, in a letter dated the 22nd October, I am directed by the Acting Governor to state for the information of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, that as a result of correspondence between the Governor and the Secretary for the Colonies, it has been ascertained, after reference to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that no trace can be found of any official mission having been entrusted to Monsieur E. A. Pairault, whose misstatements concerning Jamaica rum were contained in his work entitled "La Rhum et sa Fabrication," and that under the circumstances no further action can be taken by His Majesty's Government in the matter.---ROBERT JOHNSTONE, Acting Colonial Secretary.

(b) Foot and Mouth Disease in U. S. A. No. 6742/S.S.176/27/5/09—30th June.

I am directed by the Acting Governor to transmit, for the information of the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, enclosing a copy of a letter from the Board of Agriculture, London, on the subject of the importation of cattle from the United States of America.---ROBERT JOHNSTONE, Acting Colonial Secretary.

Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 16th May, 1909.

I am directed by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, to advert to Mr. Antrobus's letter of the 17th inst., and to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State, that all the orders which were issued by the Board in connection with the recent outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the United States of America, prohibiting the landing in this country of cattle and sheep and ruminating animals brought from the States of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Maryland and Delaware, have now been withdrawn.

The landing of animals from Canada was not prohibited. As explained in the Board's letter of the 17th December last, the landing in this country of such animals from the United States and Canada---as well as from any other country from which their landing is not entirely prohibited---can take place only at specified foreign animals' wharves for the purposes of slaughter within the limits of the wharf.---T. J. ELLIOT, Secretary.

It was resolved to recommend that the withdrawal of the prohibition of the importation of stock from the United States be considered.

(c) Japanese-British Exhibition. No. 6835/7951/09—3rd July, 1909.

I am directed by the Acting Governor to transmit for the information of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Commissioner General of the Japan-British Exhibition, inviting this Government to participate in the Exhibition proposed to be held in London in 1910. I also enclose a copy of the reply which has been sent from this office.—ROBT. JOHNSTONE, Actg. Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, July, 1909.

I am directed by the Acting Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 29th May, inviting the Government to participate in the Imperial and International Exhibition proposed to be held in London in 1910.

In reply I am to say that no appropriation from public funds can be made to secure the representation of this colony at the proposed exhibition. He has, however, caused a copy of your letter to be sent to the Royal Jamaica Society of Agriculture and Commerce and Merchants' Exchange and to the Jamaica Agricultural Society, who may possibly be able to assist by arranging for the transmission of private exhibits from Jamaica or other facilities for exhibitors.—(Sgd.) ROBERT JOHNSTONE, Acting Colonial Secretary.

(d) Eggs for Hatching.

No. 6193 5617—17th June, 1909.

In reply to your letter dated the 27th April, 1909, I am directed by the Acting Governor to inform you that the Governor in Privy Council on the 2nd instant approved, under section 8 of Law 20 of 1899, of the importation free of duty, of the eggs of pure bred fowls, on the production of satisfactory certificates by the breeders.—(Sgd.) ROBERT JOHNSTONE, Acting Colonial Secretary.

Cassava Growing.

The Secretary submitted the following letter:

Hotel Russell, London, W.C., 17th June, 1909.

Mr. Dear Mr. Barclay,—I have been delayed abroad, else would probably be in Jamaica at this time getting our work under way. We have engaged Mr. J. W. Toone, formerly of Jamaica, who will be our resident manager on that island. Mr. Toone is now awaiting me in New York, and will leave immediately upon my return, say about July 1st, or it is possible that the company may send him before I reach America, as they are very anxious to get their interests under way.

In the interval if you would detail Mr. Palache to our service, and of course, at our expense, I should like very much to have him make a trip through his parishes, getting as much planting under way as possible, and informing the people that our agent will enter into contracts if desired, for the purchase of all material they may grow, we paying a shilling per hundred weight for the fresh tuber whenever the growers care to harvest.

As soon as Mr. Toone is able he will lay out three experimental farms for us, which experiments will be for the benefit of all growers on the island.

I have been here studying the markets and conditions so that we may know exactly where we stand, in case of a reversal in the tariff conditions of our own country. We are undertaking our business so that tariff or no tariff, we will be able to deal in the world's market. At the price we are paying for raw material, we will make satisfactory profits for ourselves provided we can get sufficient quantities, as it costs as much to conduct a small business as a larger one. When we deal with Great Britain we know exactly where we stand and our purpose is to organize on this basis, after which we can gain a slight advantage, should America not place a tariff on crude cassava, as our Senate has only recently done in the tariff bill now before Congress.

Our delay in getting to Jamaica was owing to this upheaval in our tariff, making it necessary that we study foreign conditions in order to be independent of our own country's action. Such a study was necessary before we could decide as to how extensive a business we would undertake in your country. I can now say to you frankly, that we can use every ton of cassava your island will produce, and if we discover any ad-

Palache to our service for a month, and if so, have him provided immediately with the undertaking to obtain the planting of as large a crop as possible. Very truly yours,—C. C. MOORE.

Mr. Martin held that cassava could not be grown in South Manchester for less than 2/6 per cwt.

The Secretary stated that he had been told that some landowners in St. Elizabeth who had cassava land which was ploughable, might enter into contracts to supply the company at 1/- per cwt. in the field, but he did not think that small settlers could grow it at that price.

Mr. Craig said that if they permitted Mr. Palache to do as requested in the letter, the Society would be compromised in as much as small settlers would think that the price offered had the approval of the Society.

He moved, "That the Society proceed no further in the matter on the basis of Mr. Moore's communication."

Mr. Simmonds thought that the Society should grant the request to place the services of Mr. Palache at the disposal of Mr. Moore for a month or more; it did not bind them to anything. Mr. Palache's instructions should be clear that he was only introducing Mr. Moore, or his agent, to the districts, and would have nothing to do with the commercial part of the undertaking. They should put nothing in the way to prevent people coming and starting any industry, but help them. He moved, "That this Board agree to give Mr. Palache's services for one month or longer, on the distinct understanding that the company pay his expenses, and that Mr. Palache have nothing to do with the commercial part of the matter."

Mr. Shore said that he had produced and sold cassava at 1/- per cwt. profitably.

Mr. Bertram said that so long as they gave strict instructions to the Instructor as to how he was to act, there would be no danger; at the same time we should write Mr. Moore pointing out to him that the opinion of the members was that cassava could not be grown for the amount offered.

The Chairman said that the communication from Mr. Moore might be printed in the JOURNAL, so that readers would be informed of the position. Later on if necessary, a leaflet could be sent to the Instructors for distribution among cassava growers, so that there would be no mistake about the position.

On a vote Mr. Simmonds' motion was carried by six to two. Messrs. Pringle, Bertram, Martin, Simmonds, Shore and Harris voted for Mr. Simmonds' motion, and Messrs. Craig and Fursdon voted for Mr. Craig's motion.

Letter from Secretary of the S.P.A.J. The Secretary submitted letter from the Secretary of the Society for the Protection of Animals, asking if the Society could have a page in the AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL for the Society's notes, which might be of interest to the readers. It was agreed to give this for six months on trial, subject to the usual editing of the matter submitted.

S. S. Port Kingston. A letter from the agent of the Direct Line was submitted enclosing refrigerating certificate *re* S.S. *Port Kingston*, for the information of the Board.

Exhibition. Letter from Messrs. Pickford & Black *re* Exhibition to be held in Toronto, sent on by Mr. Haggart was submitted. The Secretary was instructed to state the Board's regret that as no funds had been allocated by the Government for the purpose, they could not take part in the proposed exhibition.

Branch Societies. The following resolutions from Branch Societies were submitted :—

(a) Smithville—The following resoultion was moved by Mr. Hirst and seconded by Mr. Charles Dove : "That this Society request Mr. Barclay to bring before the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, the fertility of this district, the amount of produce it contains, the character of its people as cultivators, and solicit their support on any further representations this Society may make to the Government putting forth the need of three miles of main road to connect with the existing main road from Thompson Town to Four Paths."

The Secretary was instructed to reply that the matter had already been brought before the Government and was already receiving attention.

(b) Newmarket—pointing out the great fertility and productiveness of the district, but that owing to the distance from the railway, which was up-grade, produce could not be marketed, and that the best connection was down grade to Black River, but that owing to the way the coastal steamers were worked, they had no connection suitable for shipping fruit.

The Secretary was instructed to submit this matter to the Staple and Minor Products Committee.

(c) Glengoffe—It was moved by the Secretary, seconded by the President and unanimously carried, that the following resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of the parent Society, to be submitted to the Board of Management :—

"Resolved that rule three, governing the Prize Holdings Competition, be amended to read : 'The residence of the competitor to be on the ground, or part of the ground entered for competition, the same ground not being in more than two lots, not more than half a mile apart, situated near a main or parochial road.' "—(Sgd.) A. P. HANSON, Secretary.

Mr. Craig said they ought to adhere to the rules as they were as one of the chief objects of the competition was to encourage cultivation of crops on the homestead.

(d) Spanish Town—Mr. C. Thompson, seconded by Mr. E. Lopez moved : "Resolved that this Branch Society do request the parent Society to approach the Government with a view to having the Pound Law so amended as to admit of the same protection being afforded goats found trespassing, as in the case of sheep, *i.e.*, to allow of goats being impounded only instead of being shot, as at present sanctioned by law, and this on the score of protecting such animals against unnecessary cruelty as well as owners against loss."

The resolution was passed unanimously, and the Secretary was directed to forward same to the proper quarter.

Mr. C. Thompson moved, seconded by Mr. U. N. Brown : "Resolved

to make it possible to compel landowners to allow water required for irrigation purposes to be passed through their lands, so long as such lands are not thereby depreciated."

After discussion the resolution was unanimously adopted and the Secretary was directed to forward same to the parent Society.

The meeting adjourned to the second Monday in August.

The Secretary was instructed to write the clerks of the Parochial Boards asking for information as to the working of the Pound Laws so that this matter of goats straying could be better considered.

As regards the irrigation matter, the Secretary was instructed to write the Secretary of the local Branch that the matter was one for the member for St. Catherine in the Legislative Council.

Amalgamation of two Branches. The Above Rocks Branch asked leave to amalgamate with Glengoffe Branch under the name of St. Faiths Agricultural Society, that being the name of a district there that would include both localities.

Committees. The Secretary submitted a memo for the revision of committees, and he was instructed to send a copy of the suggestions round to each member of the Board.

The proposed revised rules for Shows were directed to be submitted to the Shows Committee.

The rules for Branch Societies were also directed to be submitted to the Instructors' Committee.

Loss of £5. The Secretary made a statement *re* loss of £5 by the office messenger as follows :—

She was sent to the bank to cash a cheque for £10 ; she received £5 in notes and £5 in silver. She went away and left the latter lying on the counter, on remembering it she returned but it was gone. Although reported to the police immediately no trace of the money had been found. The matter was reported to the Finance Committee immediately, which advised that in future a clerk be sent to the bank.

The Secretary was instructed to write off the loss.

Pamphlets. The Secretary submitted the following memo :

I am very often asked for full information on certain subjects about which articles have appeared in the JOURNAL ; this involves sending copies of the JOURNAL or writing long letters, because we have no reprints of such articles in the form of leaflets. I have written a good many articles in a form suitable for printing as leaflets or pamphlets, but have never had any money to print them off ; I would ask leave to get some of these printed, especially on the subject of small stock, and charge to the JOURNAL account, which I think, from the credits accruing now from advertisements will stand the charge.—JNO. BARCLAY, Secretary.

He was authorised to carry out his suggestions.

Half Yearly Report. A draft of the Half-yearly Report was submitted. A copy had been circulated to the members of the Board. No revisions were made, and the report was approved for submission to the Half-yearly General Meeting.

Reports of Shows. The Secretary submitted reports *re* Ulster Spring and St. Margaret's Bay shows, which he was directed to publish.

Instructors' Reports and Itineraries. The Reports and Itineraries of the Instructors were submitted, and were directed to be submitted to the Instructors' Committee as usual.

Members. The following new members were elected:—P. H. Greg, Sav.-la-Mar; T. Crosse, Bog Walk; W. H. Lewis, Kingston; J. Herrera, Guatemala, Central America; G. D. Robertson, Kingston.

The meeting adjourned till 19th August, 1909.

HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING.

THE Half-yearly General Meeting of the Jamaica Agricultural Society was held at the Society's office on Thursday, 15th July, 1909, at one o'clock.

Present:—His Excellency the Acting Governor, the Hons. L. J. Bertram, Dr. Pringle, R. P. Simmonds, Messrs. D. Campbell, R. Craig, C. A. T. Fursdon, Wm. Harris, A. C. L. Martin, J. Shore, and the following representatives of Branch Societies: W. A. Morgan (Porus), J. Williams (*Aeolus Valley*), *Albert Roper (Central Portland)*, H. Schleifer (Upper Metcalfe), Rev. W. C. McCalla (Spanish Town), and Geo. Thomas, T. Kemp, A. Byron Ventresse and the Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been published in the JOURNAL for March, 1909, were taken as read and confirmed.

The Secretary's report for the half year as printed was submitted as follows:—

I have the honour to submit my report for the second half of the financial year ending 31st March, 1909, as follows:—

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.—During the six months, the following meetings were held: five meetings of the Board, no meeting being held in October; one meeting of a Committee—the Orange Industry Committee in March—and one General Meeting.

Papers, however, were circulated among the various Committees, as usual, as follows:—

STAPLE AND MINOR PRODUCTS.

October.—Organization of jippi-jappa industry in Clarendon.
January.—Letter from Mr. Stockley *re* orange shipping.
February.—Mr. Palache's Report on South Manchester.
March.—Final Report Committee on South Manchester.

LIVE STOCK.

December.—(1) Stallion.
,, —Bulls: (1) Roan Shorthorn, arrival in town. (2) Porto Rico Bulls.
January.—Bulls: condition of Roan Shorthorn at Tavares' stables.
,, —(1) Hereford Bull. (2) West African Sheep.
March.—Sale of Roan Bull.

INSTRUCTORS.

October.—(1) Correspondence *re* Instructors and Judging Prize Holdings. (2) Instructors for Kendal Show.
,, —(1) Contention between Upper Trelawny Branch and Ulster Spring. (2) Prize Holdings St. Elizabeth.
November.—Correspondence between Secretary and Director of Agriculture (1) *re* Prize Holdings St. Andrew. (2) Mr. Briscoe and Bath Show.

November—(1) Mr. Palache and Teachers' Course. (2) Mr. Hirst *re* leave to transfer December work to January.

December.—Mr. Hirst to take Mr. Arnett's work for January.

,, —(1) Prize Holdings Competition judging. (2) Mr. Hirst and Sav-la-Mar show.

January.—(1) Above Rocks Branch. (2) Bath Show. (3) Mr. Palache and Christiana Branch. (4) Mr. Hirst's work.

February.—(1) Instructors' Reports. (2) Mr. Arnett's work. (3) Mr. Palache's work and experiment ground. (4) Cassava Enterprise. (5) Letters from (a) Ulster Spring, (b) Hanover, (c) Gayle, with Secretary's remarks.

March.—Draft report South Manchester for revision. (1) Mr. Palache's work, (a) Springfield Branch, (b) Mr. Moore's visit. (2) Mr. Arnett's work—Prize Holdings Competition. (3) Mr. Hirst's work. (4) Mr. Mennell's work.

FINANCE.

December.—Auditor's Report, period August to October.

January.—Statement of Accounts and Estimates.

OFFICE.

January.—Col. Kitchener's letters *re* orange grove.

February.—Secretary's Itinerary.

The attendance of the members of the Board for the half-year was as follows :—

	Ordinary.	Half-yrly.	Total	Prev. Half year.	Total for yr.
His Excellency Sir Sidney Olivier, K.C.M.G.	4	1	5	3	8
Hon. Lieut.-Col. C. J. Ward, C.M.G.	–	–	–	–	–
Hon. Dr. Pringle, C.M.G.	2	1	3	3	6
*Hon. H. Clarence Bourne, C.M.G.	2	–	2	2	4
Hon. L. J. Bertram, C.M.G.	3	1	4	3	7
His Lordship Bishop Collins	3	1	4	5	9
Robert Craig	4	1	5	4	9
D. Campbell	4	1	5	7	12
Hon. H. H. Cousins	4	1	5	3	8
A. W. Douet	5	1	6	2	8
C. A. T. Fursdon	3	1	4	–	4
E. A. H. Haggart	1	1	2	–	2
Hon. Geo. McGrath	3	–	3	2	5
A. C. L. Martin	5	1	6	2	8
E. W. Muirhead	–	–	–	5	5
H. T. Ronaldson	2	–	2	–	2
J. Shore	1	–	1	4	5
Hon. R. P. Simmonds	2	1	3	4	7
J. R. Williams	1	–	1	2	3
John Barclay	5	1	6	7	13

Mr. Fursdon was absent from the island for four months, Mr. Muirhead has been away for five months.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.—At the half-yearly general meeting held on 28th January, 1909, the Governor intimated that as the Board of Agriculture would be abolished from 1st April, and as the Board of Manage-

*At the half-yearly meeting in January, a resolution was passed expressing the sincere regret of the Society and their sense of loss at the sudden death of the Hon. H. C. Bourne, Colonial Secretary, who died on January 5th, and expressing heartfelt sympathy with Mrs. Bourne in her loss.

ment of the Agricultural Society would then be the advisory body of the Government in Agriculture, it would be desirable to alter some of the Rules to admit three members of the Board of Agriculture, viz., The Archbishop, Mr. deMercado, and Mr. Conrad Watson, as members of the Board of Management for the period until the next election of the Board. It had also been thought advisable to alter the rules regarding the Instructors and the Director of Agriculture; so that the Instructors might be placed under the control of the Instructors' Committee, with the Director of Agriculture as Chairman. The office of Deputy Chairman would be abolished, and the Director of Agriculture appointed a member of the Board *ex officio*.

Such alterations in the Rules were, after discussion, made.

At the Board meeting held in February, a resolution moved by Mr. Bertram and seconded by Mr. Campbell, was unanimously passed, recording the deep regret of the Board at the untimely death of Mr. C. E. de Mercado, a member of the Board of Agriculture.

Import Duty on Live Stock.—As recommended by the Board, the Government notified that pure breeds of goats and rabbits imported for breeding purposes, would be exempted from duty like pure-bred horsekind, cattle and sheep for breeding purposes.

Direct Line Steamers.—The usual advices that the Direct Line steamers had been inspected fortnightly by the Harbour Master, and that it had been found that the terms of the contract had been complied with, were received from the Government. It was decided that in future an inspection of these steamers about once in six months would be sufficient.

South Manchester.—The Governor, having submitted suggestions from the Rev. Robert Johnstone, Presbyterian Minister, New Broughton, South Manchester, that as a means of relieving the present condition of the peasantry of South Manchester, measures should be taken to prevent the indefinite sub-division of small holdings, and to provide for the compulsory lease or sale of land to meet the needs of a congested population, asked that a report from Mr. Palacbe, Agricultural Instructor, be got on the subject. Mr. Palache was accordingly instructed to do so. His report was submitted to the Board at their meeting in January and referred to a committee for consideration and report. The committee gave the matter close attention and made recommendations which were submitted to the Special Commission appointed to investigate and report on the conditions in South Manchester. The matter is still occupying the attention of the Commission at the date of this report. The whole matter is causing considerable public discussion.

Cotton.—Reports of their attendance at the Cotton Conference held in Liverpool in the month of August, 1908, as the representatives of the Society, were made by Mr. Conrad Watson (October Journal, 1908), and Mr. J. R. Williams (July Journal, 1909).

The British Cotton Growing Association having suggested to the Imperial Government that as Jamaica had made very little progress in cotton growing, it would be advisable to appoint an expert in cotton growing for the colony, the matter was submitted by the Government to the Board for their opinion.

The recommendation was that the Board was not in a position to recommend the appointment of an Instructor exclusively for cotton growing in Jamaica, but considered that such experiments as were practicable could be carried out under the supervision of the existing Instructors.

A grant of £10 was made for the Secretary to arrange for small experiments in cotton growing, to be directed by the Instructors, and to be carried out on small settlers own lands along the dry seaboard of St. Elizabeth, St. Ann, Trelawny and St. James, and to this has been

FOUL BROOD IN BEES.—A letter was received from Mr. R. S. Gamble, Kingston, stating that it would facilitate sales of Jamaica honey, if a declaration that the island was free from the disease of bees, "Foul Brood," were made by the Government. The cheaper grades of honeys are bought for feeding bees in winter in Great Britain and the Continent, and if cer tified free from any possible infection. our honey would be the more readily bought.

The Secretary, although already confident that the disease did not exist here, communicated with the largest apiarists, and received their declarations that the disease was not known to have occurred here. The required certificate was then given by the Director of Agriculture and issued by the Secretary. All shipments of Jamaica honey should be accompanied by this certificate.

INSPECTION OF ORANGES.—The Trinity Ville, Newmarket, and Springfield (St. Elizabeth) Branches, submitted resolutions at various times asking that as in the opinion of the Branches, the orange trade was in danger of being completely ruined by the shipment of immature and carelessly handled fruit, the Government be asked to appoint an Inspector at the various shipping ports. The Governor expressed the opinion that the orange trade while apparently alive to the situation, had always been against legislation, but that whenever those most interested in the trade were agreed that action should be taken he would be propared to move in the matter.

ORANGE INDUSTRY.—In January copies of letters from Sir Alfred Jones, of the Direct Line, and Mr. A. H. Stockley, of Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., with regard to the carrying of oranges and the orange trade generally, were submitted by the Government for consideration. The former stated that the carrying of oranges and bananas together had been found disastrous, and that no oranges would in future be carried in the space reserved for bananas. It was suggested that perhaps movable bulkheads erected between the bananas and oranges on board the steamers, would obviate the disastrous effects of the one upon the other. The suggestion was made to the agent of the Direct Line, who forwarded it to his head office. No reply has been received yet.

Mr. Stockley's letter stated that unless Jamaica took the necessary steps to inspect citrus fruit and stop the shipping of immature fruit, the steps they were taking to establish the orange trade on a sound basis would result in failure. This matter was referred to a Special Industry Committee, which recommended (a) That it is desirable to prohibit the export of immature, juiceless and of improperly packed fruit. (b) That inspection is the only feasible way of checking if not actually preventing this. (c) That inspection should be made at any point, 1. packing house, 2. in transit, 3. at shipping port, wherever an inspector could carry it through with least delay and most effect, the principle being to establish a wholesome uncertainty as to where the inspector would appear. (d) That as the preservation of the orange industry is for the public welfare the expenses of inspection should be met by general revenue.

This report was forwarded to the Colonial Secretary with the recommendation of the Board. In reply it was pointed out that a Bill drafted in 1903, entitled "The Fruit Trade Regulation Bill," would cover the recommendations and asking that this draft bill be again considered.

JIPPI-JAPPA HATS.—This industry especially valuable for women folk has been encouraged and fostered to a great extent. Classes under the auspices of Branch Societies have been very successful, until now there must be some hundreds of girls skilled in the art outside the limited district of St. Andrew where it has also been a special industry. Hanover Branch, Darliston, Albert Town, Hectors River, Park Hall and Frankfield, have all had successful classes, which have been self-supporting. Supplies of straw are got through this office for the convenience not only of classes being held but those who have been members of

classes and continue working, yet who would have difficulty in securing supplies. Quantities of plants have been supplied through the Department of Agriculture, to Branch Societies for their members.

Owing to complaints as to the quality of hats exported, Hector's River Branch asked that samples of the straw from which "Panama" hats were made in Ecuador be secured for comparison with ours, and the Government readily responded to the Branch's request to get these from the British Consul at Guayaquil.

Samples of new styles of hats have been sent to Branches, and some trade is already being done in these.

ESSENTIALS OILS.—The great earthquake in Messina, causing dislocation of trade in Sicily, created a demand for essential oil of orange from some other source and enhanced the price. Quick advantage was taken of this here, and good trade has been done in all the large orange producing parishes, especially St. Ann and Manchester.

Samples of ecuelles or orange rinders were kept in the office and shown to anybody interested, and articles published in the JOURNAL on the subject.

EXHIBITIONS.—The matter of the Colony taking part in foreign exhibitions was referred by the Government to the Board as follows :—

1. International Exhibition, Brussels 1910.
2. Imperial and International Exhibition London, September 1909.
3. Olympic Travelling Exhibitions.

The Board recommended that the Island should not take part in any exhibitions this year, but that any exhibits from private exhibitors might be facilitated in every way.

TAXATION.—A resolution from the Christiana Branch having been submitted to the Board asserting that as a consequence of Laws 5 and 6 for 1908 (Property Tax), valuation of holdings had been increased and this militated against the Prize Holdings Competition, and Mr. Palache the Instructor, having alleged in a report that holdings entered for the Competition had had their value increased, both were asked to furnish instances. To the date of this report such instances have not been furnished.

PRIZE HOLDINGS COMPETITION.—This Competition was held during the past financial year in the parishes of St. Elizabeth, Clarendon, St. James and St. Andrew, with number of competitors as follows :—St. James, 45; St. Elizabeth, 43 ; Clarendon, 57 ; St. Andrew 92.

The reports of the Judges are being published in the JOURNALS together with list of competitors and points awarded, as competitors are very keen to know how they all compare. The prizes were distributed in St. Andrew at a public meeting held in the Court House, Stony Hill, o 27 February, in St. James and St. Elizabeth by the Instructors at Branc Meetings, and will be distributed in Clarendon by the Secretary.

In the next financial year the competition will take place in Trelawn St. Catherine, Portland, and St. Thomas.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.—In January the Secretary after consultin with the Live Stock Committee, advised the Government of the outbrea of Foot and Mouth Disease among cattle in the United States, and of th measures that had been taken in the United Kingdom and Canada, an advising that similar measures be taken here. The Government accordingl prohibited the importation of all animals and fodders from the Unite States ports until the country was declared free from the disease.

An affection of the mouth and hoofs of horsekind of an unusuall severe nature causing deaths, and evidently contagious, being reporte to the Society from Richmond district in St. Mary, the matter wa reported to the Government who promptly sent the Acting Govern ment Veterinary Surgeon to investigate and report. On his report o the infectious and contagious nature of the disease the matter was con

idered so serious that special steps were taken to ensure that owners of iorsekind in St. Mary segregated animals attacked and gave them the pecific treatment to cure and prevent the trouble. These special measures vere successful in impressing owners of horsekind with the serious nature of the affection, in securing more or less prompt treatment of the stock ttacked, in preventing the disease from becoming a serious menace to he Island, and at the same time proving that the disease was not the Foot and Mouth Disease of cattle.

Imperial Department of Agriculture.—At the February meeting of he Board, there was notified by the Government, the retirement of Sir Daniel Morris, K.C.M.G., M.A., D.SC., from his post as Imperial Commissioner, and that Dr. Francis Watts, C.M.G., D.SC., had been appointed to succeed him.

The Board expressed satisfaction and confidence in this appointment is Dr. Watts' services in this colony had been highly appreciated.

Instructors.—The Instructors' Itineraries of work proposed to be done each month, their actual Itineraries of work performed, with numbers of holdings visited, meetings of Branches attended, and number of people present, number of letters written for which franked envelopes were used, together with reports generally of their work, have all been submitted each month, and circulated among the members of the Instructors' Committee. Mr. Arnett has been called away from his district three months to judge in the Holdings Competition. If he is to be called on for the same work regularly, an additional Instructor should be appointed, first of all claims in this direction, to part of his present district, as naturally Branch Societies grumble at his absence. Mr. Palache has been called upon to do a good deal of special work at times, and I wish to record my appreciation of his ready response and his very active attention to the calls upon him to help in assisting cultivators in the drought-stricken parts of his district with supplies of sweet potato slips, cassava sticks, seed corn, beans, etc., and the immense trouble he willingly puts himself to in organising and delivering these. No person is better informed on exactly what to send to each particular dry district, or can more expeditiously organise supplies of seed and plants than Mr. Palache. I also make calls upon him constantly on behalf of other parts of the Island for certain local productions on which he is the best authority I know. This is useful but apparently unrecognized work.

From 1st April, Mr. Cradwick and Mr. Briscoe, formerly under the direction of the Board of Agriculure (to be abolished from that date) will as regards their work, be under the general direction of the Instructors' Committee of the Society with Director of Agriculture as chairman.

The Director of Agriculture submitted a comprehensive scheme for the extension of instructural work with an Instructor for each parish. The Board, however, thought that while such development was most desirable, and was what had been aimed at, such a scheme should not be brought into force at short notice, without great consideration of details, for although the money might be made available the best material might not be available without more deliberate consideration and publication of intention of appointing Instuctors.

It was, however, moved by Dr. Pringle seconded by Mr. Craig, that the Government be asked to add £500 more to the Society's grant for the general purpose of Agricultural instruction in the coming year.

Bulls.—The roan shorthorn bull was returned from St. Ann in January in a wretched condition, was sent to Hope to be kept and put in condition, which is being satisfactorily done. The bull is to be put up for sale.

The red shorthorn bull is the hands of the Director of Agriculture at Hope for use at the proposed Farm School, and the Hereford Bull is still with Kenneth Roxburgh Esq., Annandale St. Ann

STALLION.—The Welsh Pony Stallion Sir Gerald has been placed in the same district as last year in the care of Mr. Arnett. Agricultural Instructor. Gibraltar, Stewart Town P.O. for the season 1909. He served 19 mares only for the season 1908.

RULES.—At the last Half-Yearly General Meeting the Rules of the Society were revised as noted under the heading "Board of Agriculture" in this report. Revision of rules governing Branch Societies and Agricultural Shows is now required, as temporary regulations made by the Board at times have never been collected and printed. I shall submit draft of such Rules as are required for consideration.

GRANTS.—As stated above under the heading of "Cotton" a grant of £10 has been made to carry through small cotton growing experiments on small settlers own lands, along the dry seaboard of St. Ann, Trelawny, St. James, and St. Elizabeth. The British Cotton Growing Association has added £15 to this.

SHOWS.—Agricultural Shows were held between 1st October and 31st March as follows :—

Santa Cruz - - -	9th November.	Grant	£ 3	18	0
Newmarket - -	9th ,,	,,	8	6	2
Kendal - - -	25th ,,	,,	10	0	0
Sav-la-mar - - -	1st January	,,	10	0	0
Bath - - -	25th ,,	,,	7	7	7

The Secretary attended at Kendal, Sav-la-mar, and Bath, and one of the Instructors at least was present at each of the shows except Santa Cruz, which was unfortunately held the same day as Newmarket.

Altogether twelve shows were held during the year, more than any year in the past, mostly successful beyond the average, both in live stock and agricultural products. At no previous Kendal show for instance has there appeared better prepared horses or of better quality. This goes to show that drought notwithstanding, there has been sustained effort.

To some shows we have hired marquees and these served their purpose well, but the tear and wear they suffer, will not allow of a long life for them. Poultry coops and show pans have also been loaned to them as usual.

BRANCH SOCIETIES.—There are now 67 local Societies affiliated ; a list of these and the names of the Secretaries is published on a page of the JOURNAL for reference. The following new Branches were affiliated during the last six months :—

Gibraltar - - -	(St. Ann)
Ulster Spring - - -	(Trelawny)
Spanish Town - - -	(St. Catherine)

making with 10 from the previous half-year a total of 13 for the year.

One Branch became defunct—Fairfield, in South Manchester.

JOURNAL.—We now issue 4,000 JOURNALS per month. The cost for the year has been £397 17s. 0d., but there is a credit for advertisements of £141 8s. 8d., and £2 3s. 9d. for JOURNALS sold, making a total cost of £254 4s. 6d., bringing the net cost well under the allocation.

OFFICE.—The work is the same as detailed in the first half-year's report.

For the half-year 2318 letters were received, and 3156 dispatched on the following subjects :—

Shows, 152 ; General Products, 290 ; Jippi-Jappa Industry, 67 ; Subscriptions, 222 ; Sundries, 274 ; JOURNAL, 45 ; Cotton, 71 ; Instructors 141 ; Diseases in stock, 41 ; Prospective settlers, 14 ; Circulated papers, 165 ; Pests and their treatment, 52 ; Board of Management, 178 ; Seed distribution, 56 ; Branch Societies, 254 ; Advertisements, 60 ; Society's Bulls and Stallion, 109 ; Small Stock and Bees, 263 ; Board of Agriculture, 13 ;

Sundry seeds and plants, 285; Cattle and Horsekind, 60; Half-yearly Meeting, 72; Prize Holdings Competition, 272.—Total 3156. Making a total of letters received for the year of 4,988 and dispatched 6,030.

In the half-year 616 receipts were issued for monies received and 706 receipts received for monies paid, making a total for the year of 1,144 and 1,255 respectively.

A work of steadily increasing importance is the supplying of seeds and plants, or acting as the medium of supply. I have been noting with satisfaction from year to year this evidence of the increasing desire to select the best seeds and plants for planting, instead of anything that is easiest to be got.

A great demand for Cowpeas also, for the purposes of green dressings is noteworthy. There is, too, £20 worth of vegetable seeds bought in the Island now for £1 worth bought ten years ago.

FINANCES.—We commenced the year with a balance to our credit of £159 11s. 7d. The total revenue has been £318 3s. 1d.

As we only began paying rent on 1st August for our present premises, £15 of the amount saved for four months was given as a grant for the supply of seeds and plants to distressed cultivators in St. Elizabeth and Manchester. The amount of £1 14s. 2d. has been spent over the allocation for rent and taxes, which we never required to pay before. This is. however, more than met on the receipt side by the amount of £1 18s. received for rent of stalls.

There is also an excess in stationery and sundry printing, as we now supply the Instructors with their stationery, and no provision was made for this.

There is also an excess in the Prize Holdings account. This is through the prizes in the St. Mary Competition of the previous year being paid in this year owing to the late date of the judging.

The expenses of bulls will be met in the next year's account by the sum received from the sale of the bull in April.

Under grants to shows the amount of £18 17s. cost of marquees is capital expenditure, which is expected to be refunded by the charges for hiring the marquees, for which we have received £2 12s. so far. The life of the marquees at the rate they are going, however, will not be long, as every time they are used, we have some expenditure for repairs.

Under Instructors account there is a sum of £4 12s. 2d. spent over the allocation. This was the amount of the travelling expenses of the Instructors coming to Kingston to attend a conference with the Instructors Committee, and for which no provision was made.

The sum of £858 15s. 1½d. has been passed through the books on Deposit account, largely for seeds, plants and stock supplied through our medium. Of this £259 2s. 6d. was for Arrowroot supplied to Public Institutions, all purchased from Westmoreland and Hanover.

We carry forward a credit balance of £162 16s. 3d.

The office has a spacious yard and good stalls, where animals imported by members can be kept if necessary and animals requiring to be quarantined can be segregated.

The Office transactions have been checked as usual by the Audit Office.

Short reports from the Instructorts on their year's work are appended.

Statements of accounts and estimates are appended.

JNO. BARCLAY,

SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1908-09.

RECEIPTS.

		Estimate.	£. s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance 1907-08		..	..	159 11 7
Subscriptions		90 0 0	93 18 9	..
Advertisement		80 0 0	141 8 8	..
Affiliations		10 0 0	13 0 0	..
Prize Holdings—				
(1) Fees	£11 12 0	..	..	
(2) Refunds	26 19 0	10 0 0	38 11 0	..
Bulls		5 0 0	3 16 1	..
Stallion—				
(1) Fees	£19 19 0	..	..	
(2) Pasturage Mares	1 13 0	30 0 0	21 12 0	..
Journals sold		2 0 0	2 3 9	..
Rent Account, Stabling Live Stock		..	1 18 0	..
Sundries		2 0 0	1 14 10	318 3 1
Deposits :				
Arrowroot		..	259 2 6	
Board of Agriculture		..	146 14 0	
British Cotton Growing Association for Cotton Experiments		..	15 0 0	..
Bulls		..	68 19 11	..
Clarendon Association Fund		..	24 3 10	..
Jippi-Jappa (Straw etc.)		..	19 10 9	..
Pigs and Goats		..	19 14 2	..
Potatoes		..	53 19 4	..
Poultry and Rabbits		..	67 10 7	..
Seed Distribution		..	25 0 0	..
Sundry Seeds and Plants		..	70 15 6½	..
Shows		..	36 9 6	..
Miscellaneous		..	51 15 0	858 15 1½
[G]rant from Government		..	1,500 0 0	..
[E]lder Dempster & Co. for Instructors		..	730 0 0	2,230 0 0

EXPENDITURE.

	Allocation.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Secretary's Salary	300 0 0	..	300 0 0
,, Clerks, Typist and Messenger	200 0 0	..	194 8 6
,, Instructors .. £320 } ,, E.. D. & Co. 730 }	1,050 0 0	..	1,054 13 9
,, Rent and Taxes —	48 0 0		
(1) Transferred to Seed Distribution	..	15 0 0	..
(2) Actual Rent	—	34 14 2	49 14 2
,, Office Furniture	50 0 0	..	44 2 0
,, Printing Journal (see adv. contra)	330 0 0		397 17 0
,, Postage, Telegrams, etc. —	25 0 0	—	21 2 6
,, Stationery and Sundry Printing—			
(1) Instructors	—	4 14 6	—
(2) Office —	40 0 0	37 9 5½	42 3 11½
,, Prize Holdings (see contra)			
(1) Prizes —	—	132 4 0	—
(2) Expenses —	—	12 3 6	—
(3) Refunds —	125 0 0	24 15 0	169 2 6
,, Stallion			
(1) Keep —	—	39 11 0	—
(2) Travelling Expenses —	—	5 16 0	—
(3) Pasturage Mares —	40 0 0	1 7 0	46 14 0
,, Bulls—			
(1) Travelling Expenses —	—	6 0 3	
(2) Vet. Atten. and Keep—	5 0 0	22 14 0	28 14 3
,, Telephone —	7 4 0	—	7 4 0
,, Travelling —	80 0 0	—	79 4 3½
,, Experiments —	5 0 0	—	3 1 4⅛
,, Advertising —	5 0 0	—	1 1 0
,, Grants to Shows—			
(1) Actual Grants —	—	87 0 6	—
(2) Cost of Marquee —	—	18 10 0	—
(3) Sundries —	100 0 0	6 16 9	112 7 3
,, Sundries—			
Books, Periodicals, etc. —	—	8 12 7	—
Office Supplies —	—	7 8 4	—
Typewriters Repairs and Sundries —	—	2 1 2	—
Refunds	—	1 12 7	—
Secretary's and Clerk's Guarantee —		5 5 0	
Miscellaneous —	40 0 0	13 4 1½	38 3 9½
Deposits (see contra)			814 0 3½

ALLOCATIONS FOR 1909-10.

EXPENDITURE.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Secretary's Salary - -			350 0 0
Clerk senior - -			120 0 0
,, junior - -			52 0 0
,, Typist - -			52 0 0
Office Messenger - -			18 4 0
Local Instructors			
Mr. Arnett	300 0 0		
Mr. Palache	300 0 0		
Mr. Mennell	250 0 0		
Mr. Hirst	200 0 0		
	1050 0 0		
From E. D. & Co.	730 0 0	320 0 0	
Additional Grant for Instruction			
*Allocated as follows :—			
(1) Mr. Hirst (addition)	37 10 0		
(2) Mr. Arnett ,,	50 0 0		
(3) Mr. H. Q. Levy (9 mhs.)	187 10 0		
(4) Mr. L. A. Wates ,,	112 10 0		
Reserve	12 10 0	400 0 0	720 0 0
Special Grant for S. Manchester and S.E. St. Elizabeth			
Allocated as follows :—			
Additional Instructor			
Mr. E. J. Smith (9 months)	112 10 0		
Experiment Grounds	60 0 0		
Reserve	77 10 0	250 0 0	
Rent - - -			48 0 0
Office Furniture - -			10 0 0
Journals - - -			350 0 0
Postage, Telegrams and Carriage -			25 0 0
Stationery and Sundry Printing -			40 0 0
Prize Holdings - -			125 0 0
Stallion Expenses - -			40 0 0
Bulls - - -			5 0 0
Experiments : - -			
1. Sundry	5 0 0		
2. Cotton	10 0 0		
3. South Manchester	25 0 0		40 0 0
Shows - - -			100 0 0
Travelling - - -			100 0 0
Telephone - - -			7 4 0
Advertising - - -			5 0 0
Sundries - - -			40 0 0
			£2247 8 0

*(1.) For increase of duties from 11 days to 15 days a month (9 months).
(2.) For judging Prize Holdings Competitions.
(3.) New Instructor (9 months).
(4.) do do

ESTIMATES FOR 1909-10

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions - -	90	0	0
Advertisements - -	100	0	0
Journals sold - -	2	0	0
Affiliations - - -	10	0	0
Prize Holdings Fees - -	10	0	0
Stallion Fees - -	30	0	0
Bulls - - -	5	0	0
Sundries - - -	2	0	0
	£249	0	0

ABSTRACT 1909-10.

Estimated Receipts as above - -				249	0	0
Government Grant - -	£1,500	0	0			
Additional for Instructors -	400	0	0			
Additional in lieu of Board of Agriculture amount -	100	0	0	2,000	0	0
Balance carried forward from 1908-09				162	16	3
				2,411	16	3
Estimated expenditure for 1909-10 as per above statement				2,247	8	0
Estimated balance as at 31/3/10				£ 164	8	3

JNO. BARCLAY.
Secretary and Treasurer.

It was taken as read.

The Chairman submitted each item for discussion.

On the question of the orange industry, Mr. Byron Ventresse asked whether the expression of opinion of the Governor that the orange trade, while apparently alive to the situation, had always been against legislation, but that whenever those most interested in the trade were agreed that action should be taken, he would be prepared to move in the matter, was the final word on the matter, or was the matter to lie dormant until the principal producers moved in it. What he would like to know was this: Was anything going to be done or was the matter to lie where it was?

The Secretary explained that a special Orange Committee had been appointed, had met, and had made recommendations as set forth in the report before them, which had been submitted to the Board and forwarded to the Government; the Government then sent back copy of bill entitled "The Fruit Trade Regulation Law of 1905," which had been submitted to the Legislative Council in that year and thrown out, asking that it be submitted to the Committee for revision. He had sent a copy of this bill to the members of the Committee and only two had replied. He had written a letter to each of the daily newspapers asking them to print this bill so that it might be criticised and revisions suggested, but there had not been a single letter in the newspapers on the subject; so the position was that the matter was lying dormant.

Mr. Kemp said he would like to know with regard to the shipping of oranges at the beginning of the season, whether Jamaica earned more money by shipping worthless fruit at the start of the season and so dis-

gusted the buyer that when the fruit came in and was shipped, nobody would have anything to do with Jamaica oranges, or whether it would not be better to wait and ship only good fruit ? He advocated the passing of a law which would prevent any fruit being shipped before the 1st September.

The Secretary : But what about those groves that grow oranges for early shipment ? And what about mid-season fruit ?

Mr. Kemp : There ought to be legislation on the principle of the greatest good for the greatest number. They would gain much more, and hardly anything less, if no fruit was shipped until the 1st September.

Dr. Pringle said the subject was a very difficult one. He believed there were a number of persons who cultivated a mid-summer crop. If the sending of immature fruit destroyed the market early in the year it was equally true if immature fruit was shipped in September it would also destroy the market. If they had a law restricting the exportation of the fruit it might knock sections of the country out of the business, as the orange crops did not come in at the same time all over the country. If they could have a system of inspection of some kind they would detect bad oranges in May just as they would in September. But to have a drastic law such as was proposed would be fatal to the industry.

Mr. Campbell said he would like to ask if there were other delinquents besides Jamaica in the trade ?

The Secretary : Yes. There is the same trouble in southern Spain and Florida.

Mr. Kemp : But not South Africa where there is a system of inspection.

Mr. Campbell : So we are not the only delinquents.

The Secretary : Except as to a question of degree.

Mr. Campbell said it seemed to him until the Legislative Council adopted a different tone towards the matter nothing would be done. At the same time he would like to see a close season for oranges as it was well known a ripe orange could be got all the year round here.

Mr. Simmonds said he did not understand what Mr. Campbell meant by the Legislative Council adopting a different tone. Whilst in England he saw apples being offered for sale which a hog would not touch, for if it did they would give it colic. He saw strawberries that could only have been picked to look at. All the same he heard no one making all this fuss nor suggesting that apples should not be shipped or strawberries not put on the market. He saw no reason why, if a man who could ship good oranges early in the year should be prevented from doing so.

Mr. Shore said it would be impossible to lay down a close time for oranges in this country. On the Northside the best oranges came in at the early time of the year.

The Acting Governor said he had not seen the papers on the question since his arrival here ; but he knew from of old the exporting of our oranges was a difficult question. Ten years ago it was said the matter would right itself. He had come back to the island and it was a matter of regret to him to find that the position had gone further wrong than when he was here 10 years ago. The Government had prepared a bill which had been thrown out, and he would pause there to point out that it was a difficult thing for the Government to interfere with a matter of trade. If a man wanted to buy green fruit he did not see how the Government could prevent him. What was wanted was a meeting of the orange growers who should arrive at an agreement and then come to the Government with one voice. He felt persuaded that if they did that it would be found possible for the Government to grant what they asked for. The growing of oranges would prove most useful to Manchester, most useful to parts of St. Ann, most useful to the Port Royal Mountains, if they

could only get the fruit into market in such condition as would please the buyers, and get a good name for Jamaica. Something had been said about the Legislative Council. He was sure the Legislative Council would be only too pleased to further any well-considered scheme which would meet with the approval of the whole trade. He thought himself this was the *crux* of the whole matter: that they should have the whole trade united in the matter. And he now appealed to the whole trade to come forward as one man, and say what they wanted done. And he was sure if they did this the Legislative Council would not block them in any way (applause). That is the difficulty. Unless the whole of the growers combine nothing can be done.

Mr. Kemp: You will never get unity among the growers and shippers. You will have to make a law: the greatest good for the greatest number. We will have to interfere with the rights of the growers if they are interfering with the rights of the majority.

The Acting Governor: You must remember that the shipping of oranges, green or ripe, is not a crime. The man is doing injury to his neighbour, but it is not a crime.

Mr. Kemp: We must make it a crime if we are to put a stop to the evil.

Mr. W. A. Morgan of Porus Branch, advocated inspection of fruit if properly carried through by a competent and impartial inspector, not only at fruit houses, but at railway stations and wharves, anywhere the fruit could be checked by surprise visits as recommended by the Orange Industry Committee. He said that as long as dealers would buy growers would sell, and for this reason what the buyers bought and shipped should have some check. It was the business of the country at large to see to this as the country at large suffered. Last year August he was offered 1/3 per hundred for fruit on his trees, but as they were not fully developed he waited till September and only got 9d. per hundred, and the majority remained unsold. He thus suffered through acting on principle. He would oppose a close season, because from the parish of Manchester, good marketable fruit was being shipped at present, and had been shipped almost right along; that was his own opinion, and the opinion in his district.

Some further discussion followed and it was eventually decided to refer back the matter to the Orange Committee for further action.

The half-yearly report was then adopted.

Pursuant to notice given at the last meeting, Mr. A B. Ventress moved the following resolution: "That considering many of the mai roads of the island are in a condition far from satisfactory, the Govern ment be asked to introduce some system of supervision whereby th money expended for the upkeep of roads may be more equitably divide in proportion to the taxation of the parishes."

The mover said he was actuated by but one desire, *i.e.*, equity. I all parts of the island had bad roads he was willing to endure the sam till times improved, but if some parts had good and others bad roads then it was time, he thought, that the reason should be enquired into an steps taken to remedy the same, so that any false system of retrenchmen whereby some roads were being literally starved out of existence migh cease. The Director of Public Works said in his report "such and such road was in fair order." It was most incorrect And the Director wa not telling an untruth either. He was simply reporting as he had bee reported to by the Superintendents. But why did he get such reports It was all a matter of comparison from various individual standpoints He did not for a moment suggest this state of affairs reflected in th slightest degree upon any Superintendents of Roads but it must be

would be taken at headquarters as a confession of weakness. Many people might not be aware that in some parishes the only means of restoring storm damages was to take the allocation for that particular road and use it for that purpose. And the road must starve for the remainder of the year. And to such an extent was this carried that even mules for working on the roads must be bought out of the appropriation for the roads. This was purely an agricultural question, because if roads were improved, cultivations would be extended and the produce could then be taken to market. Under present conditions it was frequently impossible even to market produce that was actually grown.

The resolution was seconded by one of the members for the sake of discussion.

His Excellency the Acting Governor, said he was rather surprised at the form of the motion. As far as he knew we had better roads in Jamaica than almost any other part of the world. He had travelled in a good many parts of Europe and Central America, and on the whole he thought that our roads here were equal to any in any other part of the globe. We had had a great deal of trouble in the past and our roads had been brought to their present pitch of perfection through years and years of trouble. That the system which had worked so well for so many years should be condemned now in this manner, seemed to him to be rather extraordinary. He did not know what object the mover of the motion had in trying to compare Westmoreland with St. Mary, and he could tell him that the conditions were entirely different in the two parishes. In Westmoreland they produced sugar and rum, and the cartage for sugar and rum was very different from that which was required for the banana industry of St. Mary. It would be the duty of the Government—and he thought that the Government had carried out that duty—to meet the conditions of traffic. If the mover of the motion went to the United States he thought that he would have cause to complain about conditions which were absent in this colony. If he went to some places in Central America the same thing would occur. He had no doubt that in all the Western Hemisphere, the roads in Jamaica were better than in any other place. He thought that while the roads were necessary for agricultural progress, discussions of this kind in which engineering questions with regard to the supervision of the roads were involved, ought really not to be considered or dealt with at meetings of the kind.

The Secretary said that the subject of improvement of roads and the making of new ones was just one of the chief subjects the Branch Societies discussed, and one the Society had often before it. The question of roads for the marketing of agricultural produce was most intimately connected with agriculture; and the Society had always considered it very pertinent to their work.

Mr. Ventresse said he had been in almost every one of the West Indian Islands, Central America, and in a good many of the States of the American Union, and in many parts of Canada. The state or condition of roads there had nothing to do with his argument, which was some kind of equity, uniformity or consistency in dealing with the roads in Jamaica, which were good but he did not think were impossible to be bettered. He meant no reflection on individuals, but on the system. However, as the meeting had been so long drawn out that many had left for their trains and those who would have supported him had gone, he would withdraw his motion.

Mr. Roper (Central Portland), said that his Society had asked him to bring two matters to the attention of the meeting; they were circumstances that had transpired in his parish. The people with whom he had to deal were a very suspicious lot, but through the efforts that had been made on their behalf, got up an Agricultural Show that had been a success. What he wanted to impress upon the Society was that a certain bailiff in the vicinity had told the people that if they sent in their exhibits

to the show, the Government would increase their taxes. The people themselves held that belief, and what the bailiff told them only served to intensify their fear. He therefore asked the Society to exercise its influence in the matter, and endeavour to have that individual dealt with. This was a hostile force that was working both against the interests of agriculture and the revenue of the Government.

The other matter was the making of a road down to St. Margaret's Bay; this would be of considerable benefit to the people themselves whose products could then reach ships, while it would distinctly enhance the value of the St. Margaret's Bay as a shipping port. The road he referred to was at "Whydah."

The members thought that if this bailiff existed as a menace in the parish, some remedial steps should be taken; it was an important point, and the Secretary was instructed to enquire into it.

His Excellency said that he would enquire into the matter of the road. It could safely be taken from him that where a road was concerned which would serve a good purpose, no block would come from the Government side.

The meeting was brought to a close at 2.15 p.m.

INSTRUCTORS' REPORTS.

St. Andrew and St. Thomas.—I have the honour to submit to you a short report of my work for the second six months of the year at your request.

Branch meetings attended: Bath, one; Brandon Hill, three; Castleton, three; Glengoffe, four, Above Rocks, three; Mannings Hill, three; Aeolus Valley, two; Trinity Ville, three; Woburn Lawn, two; Mt. James, three; Metcalfe three; Red Hills, two; Port Royal Mountains, two; Lawrence Tavern, one; St. Christopher two: also attended the meeting at Stony Hill of the distribution of the prizes won in the competition in St. Andrew.

I visited, gave demonstrations and advice during this period on agricultural subjects to many small settlers in the different districts too numerous to mention, as I have often visited the same cultivations on different occasions.

During this period in upper St. Andrew and Castleton district, there has been fair seasons. The spring cocoa crop was good, bananas and other small crops fair. The coffee crops this year will be good.

In the eastern section the early part of the year was very dry, and in consequence the bananas, although they had plenty hanging in the fields, suffered to a great extent and the percentage of counts was much less than usual in St. Thomas. For the past two or three months I am glad to say they have had fine seasons and the young plants are now looking fine for the Spring crops.

It is very gratifying to see at Phillipsfield, Yallahs, the property of J. M. Lewis, the fine growth the coconuts made, planted last year: many of them eight to ten feet high now.

In upper St. Catherine, Glengoffe and Above Rocks districts, all the crops have been fairly good. At Temple Hall, the tobacco crop has been fair and of medium quality. This land is now practically worn out and requires a rest for at least four or five years, with cattle to run over it.—J. Briscoe.

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Manchester and St. Elizabeth.—The half year that has just closed has left on record little of special interest that I can report on. The continued drought which has prevailed in Southern Manchester and

ıonthly visits to the several Branch Societies. The Fairfield Branch, I egret to say, has shown no sign of life, notwithstanding all my efforts to :eep it going, and it may now be considered defunct. All the Branches ı St. Elizabeth are in a healthy condition and evince interest in the work, nd I think I can fairly say that in Northern St. Elizabeth there is considerable agricultural progress, and there is increased and improved cultivation of coffee, cocoa, bananas and vanilla.

I have continued and increased my holding to holding visitation, intructing and demonstrating; and the methods of tillage and drainage uggested have been in many cases adopted with success; and as one peron improves his work on his holding, his neighbours copy and the improvements are extended.

Much good has been effected by shows held at Appleton, Newmarket nd Christiana during the past year and useful lessons derived therefrom. 'he selection of the best varieties of the different products cultivated, is ow becoming a pronounced feature with all those who are really striving or improvement in agriculture, and I am doing my best to encourage his.—J. Thompson Palache, Instructor No. 4 District.

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Portland.—Since my return from England, I have been chiefly ocupied with impressing on the small settlers of Portland, the importance f making strenuous efforts to save the cocoa industry in that parish.

I have held meetings practically all over the parish, all Branch Soieties have been visited; 14 meetings of Branch Societies having been eld and attended. Meetings at all the outstations covered by the Branches have also been held.

Demonstrations in pruning cocoa have beeu given at all the places where material was available. An old field at Mt. Holstein, typical of undreds of others in the parish, has been thinned out and sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture, as a first measure toward wiping out the pod rot, which for the past year, has practically destroyed the crop. An important iscovery was made during this work, in the fact that the rats, which ormerly ate out whatever pods escaped the pod rot, will not touch pods which have been sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture. Cocoa plantations ear high woodlands, from which it is impossible to exclude rats, would ossibly pay for spraying from this point of view alone. Eight acres of ocoa at Vinery were thoroughly cleaned and sprayed with Bordeaux Mixure as a demonstration of the methods of dealing with pod rot. It is itiful to see so many of what, were 10 years ago, very fine little cocoa ultivations, in such a deplorable condition as they are at present in this arish. Many of them have had practically nothing done to them since he hurricane of 1903, and trees which were blown down then have had ery little done to them and are simply masses of suckers.

Demonstrations have been given as to the proper method of handling hese trees, but on account of the small returns obtained from the trees or the past two or three years, it seems a hard matter to interest the ıajority of the small settlers.

The weather in Portland has been, I was going to say exasperating, ain gathers up day after day and either falls out at sea, or goes clear ver the parish on to the south side, the consequence is that the banana rops have been about 50 or 75 per cent. of the original promise, in spite f strenuous efforts on the part of many of the cultivators.

I was occupied in the parish of St. Mary for one month during the care of "Foot and Mouth Disease." This disease is still hanging about ı Portland, in the neighbourhood of Manchioneal very badly.—Wm. Radwick.

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Clarendon and St. Catherine.—I have to report that during the alf-year, January to June, I have continued to do the regular eleven

I have attended the following Branch meetings: Clarendon—Smithville, three; Bull Head, two; Park Hall, one; Mocho, one. St. Catherine—Bog Walk, two; Cedar Valley, two.

The limited time at my disposal makes it impossible to attend board meetings more regularly, especially as these meetings are usually placed on the middle days of the week only.

I have held the following other meetings in my district: Guys Hill, one; Pot House Pen, one; Ham Walk, one; Troja, one; Ewarton, one.

During part of January and part of February, I acted for Mr Arnett, whilst he was engaged judging the holdings competition and attended meetings at the following places: Baillieston, Ocho Rios, Clifton Lodge, Pedro, and Claremont.

By special instruction I also attended meetings at Above Rocks and Stewart Town, and assisted at the Paradise, Browns Town, and Ulster Spring Shows.

In February, the Clarendon Small Holdings were judged. The competition was well contested and very keen. I think there was no holding that had not made a decided effort to improve, and the prizes gained were well merited.

In April an Agricultural Show was held at Bog Walk, which was successful, not only from the spectacular point of view, but from that of the Agricultural Instructor.

Classes for teaching the jippi-jappa hat industry have been held at Park Hall, Frankfield and Crooked River, in Clarendon. The plant from which the straw is obtained, grows wild in that district, and these classes should be the means of starting a useful alternative industry.

Every part of my district has a different climate—in fact I think it would be hard to find a district more diversified both as to climate, soil and also its people.

On the whole, however, it has been exceptionally dry, and severe drought has prevailed in some districts, accompanied by want and privation. All through with hardly any exceptions, there has been an exceptional scarcity of money. Well-to-do settlers have been puzzled to find money. Their reserves are exhausted and in many instances their credit also. I think in many districts, there is just now a slight improvement, but in others nothing but a return to normal seasons can improve the condition of the people. In many instances they plant, and the rain stops or is insufficient. At other times they hesitate, fearing the rain may not last. They have lost heart and confidence, otherwise "faith."

Fortunately there is prospect of a good coffee crop, due to favourable showers at the beginning of the year, and as the fruit is in different stages, and at the time of writing we are getting rain, which I imagine, is pretty general, there is hope of its coming to maturity without much burning.

The district of Vere has suffered severely by the failure of the irrigation scheme. Had they never had it they would have done better, for their resources would be greater. The heavy dues cripple many estates, and the expectation of water has led them into expenditure greater than they could afford, now that crops are unfavourable.—J. Hirst.

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Western District.—For the past six months I have visited more than once all parts of my districts. I inspected holdings, giving actual demonstrations in different branches of agriculture. These demonstrations are frequently attended by the neighbouring cultivators and whilst it is true such may not be dignified by the formal name "meeting," yet a good deal of work is done and I think appreciated by those who are present. Wherever I go now I am always received with a welcome, so different from the first receptions I got from suspicious parties: all the suspicions seem to have vanished and the cultivators are realizing that the work is for their benefit and are adopting many of my suggestions from which they receive benefit. I am naturally pleased and gratified to see

this improvement and mark the progress made by so many people. Their settlements are fenced—gates carefully made—the lands cleared and certain necessary and sanitary improvements are to be seen around the buildings.

I am endeavouring to remove one evil that handicaps the cultivators, which is, I believe, one cause of praedial larceny. I mean renting "grounds" at great distances from their homes. I have tried to impress upon those who own small holdings that if they will properly cultivate their own lands close to their homes, they will receive quite sufficient returns without requiring them to go out into the high woods to rent lands, which owing to the distance from their homes they cannot protect properly from the praedial thief. No one but those who have attempted to combat this old time practice of rented lands, can imagine the difficulties to be overcome. I can point to a few instances where success has been obtained by careful cultivation of the holdings near the homestead, and rent land given up. I am trusting that these instances will be object lessons to the surrounding neighbours.

During the past six months I attended one Agricultural Show (Sav.-la-Mar); fifteen meetings of Branch Societies; eight local meetings. One hundred aud fifty-one holdings I visited, at each of which actual demonstrations were given, in some instances before fairly large gatherings of people. During this period I was engaged for some time in company with Mr. Arnett, in visiting, judging, and awarding prizes, in the recent Small Holdings Competition in St. James.

The rainfall at *Chilton in the Darliston Mountains* for the past six months was 41 inches 91 parts.—H. D. D. Mennell.

SHOWS.

Ulster Spring—I beg to report to the Board of Management that I attended the Agricultural Show held by the Ulster Spring Branch Society at Ulster Spring on Thursday, 3rd June, 1909.

The Instructor for the district, Mr. Arnett, after having spent a good many days in the district organising the show, was also in attendance, and Mr. Hirst, as a former Instructor for the district, travelled over at his own expense, at the request of the Show Committee, to help.

The show grounds were in excellent condition, the only drawback being the distance in from the main road, and the narrowness of the road in. There was a very good attendance, but nothing to what the district could do. I think the show could have been much better advertised in outlying districts, and longer ahead. Mr. Arnett, however, was engaged on other work and was not in the district until a few weeks before the show; otherwise meetings in outlying districts could have been held to talk about the show, its objects and requirements, but the Show Committee in future could arrange for such meetings. Unless this is done, plenty of people do not know that there is to be a show or do not properly understand what it is.

The show of live stock was very moderate. The district is noted for fine working mules. These are not bred in the locality but brought up young from St. Elizabeth, and with the plentiful feeding in the district, these animals grow to a fine size and substance. The mule class should have been a very strong one. The

horse classes too, were moderate, but these uplands, although they thrive mules, do not thrive horses without special care. The turn out of donkeys was also poorer than I expected. The cattle were a little better, but the district ought to be able to do very much more in this class. These uplands are always green, always have a plentiful water supply, and thrive cattle exceedingly well, but on the Trelawny side of the Black Grounds, the settlers do not seem to keep cows so much as those on the Manchester side, as at Christiana the show was a great one in regard to settlers' cattle. The small stock too, was disappointing; goats, pigs and fowls were very moderate, while dogs were exceedingly poor. The Branch Society can do good practical work in improving their small stock. A show is practical in finding out the weaknesses of a district. It was the agricultural products section, however, that made the show a good one, although even here the district can do very much better. The fruit class was only remarkable for the bananas, and in such a district there ought to have been a much finer show of this fruit—a staple product of the district. The show of vegetables was medium, but the root classes were better. The grains and nuts section, that is, corn, peas, etc., was exceedingly good, with stiff competition. The coffee and cocoa classes were also good and competition very keen. As the district has great aspirations as a cocoa growing district, it missed a great opportunity for advertising itself, in both bananas and cocoa especially, through the medium of this show. If it pays private firms to advertise themselves and their wares, it also pays districts to advertise themselves; and an agricultural show is the best medium to do this. This is a point of view that ought to be impressed on everybody in the district, and if they had any ambition, any local pride, or any patriotism, the agricultural shows should be supported to the utmost; otherwise the districts are apt to go to sleep and always be looking for somebody or something to come from the outside and help them. Self-help is a grand virtue. To alter a quotation—"The world helps those who help themselves."

The meals and starch section was one of the best, and although we may stand pretty much alone in our ideas, we think the making of corn meal, banana meal, cassava meal, and the various starches, as household arts should be encouraged to the utmost,—otherwise we will probably find imported packets of starch in country shops before long, just as we have packets of various cereal preparation used instead of banana meal and farine. The same remarks apply to the oils and vinegars. We like to see a good show of coconut oil, castor oil, and cane and banana vinegar.

There were no dairy exhibits worth mentioning, except eggs and these were not remarkable. The preserve section too, was rather poor, although with so much marmalade and jelly imported housewives ought to vie with each other and take a pride in the words "Home Made"—magic words in Scotland when applied to things like butter and preserves,—but here we are afraid the re... [illegible] ...articular interest in the prepared chocolate, an...

have compared the handiwork at many shows during the last ten years, but we have still to find housewives in the country who can beat the Hanover folks, or else it is that elsewhere the housewives are afraid to show their handiwork. The finest meals and starches, the finest prepared cocoa and the finest prepared coconut oil that we have seen at any show, were exhibited at Lucea show some years ago. However, when it comes to good, solid foodstuff for the home, commend me to Ulster Spring, where the potato pone, corn pone, and cassava pone were in strong evidence, of exceedingly good flavour, and with good, solid feeding value. Some districts are strong in one thing and some excel in another. Ulster Spring runs to solid feeding stuffs. In the native manufactures jippi-jappa hats made a good show, and it was a pleasure to see so many exhibits of these. There were also some good exhibits of cabinet work, but on the whole the specimens of handicrafts were not much of an advertisement of the skill of the tradesmen of the district.

We always regret that we cannot criticise the fancy work. It is usually a section that turns out very strong. The women folk, however, seem to like to exhibit fancy work more than good, practical work.

Altogether, however, the show was promising for a first attempt, and ought to be developed.—Jno. Barclay, Secretary.

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St. Margaret's Bay.—I beg to report on St. Margaret's Bay Show, held on June 22nd, at Snow Hill Race Course, under the auspices of the local Branch. The show grounds were well situated beside the railway and close to the sea. The area under the grand stand, which was roomy, was utilised for agricultural products, and the Society's marquees which were on hire, were used for the refreshment rooms, lunch room and for exhibiting ladies' work and handicrafts. It was the first show held by the Branch and the first in the district, so we have to make considerable allowances in some directions. First, as to punctuality,—the people turned up with their exhibits leisurely; those furthest away, like exhibitors from the Branch Society at Moore Town, being almost the first in, those nearest at hand last. All the exhibitors will understand in future to be early enough to allow time for the judging; so they have learned one lesson from this show. Then I heard at least a dozen people saying—"If I had only known, I could have shown exhibits as good if not better than those I see." Many people were kept back from exhibiting because they thought they had no chance. The show will thus probably have inspired many to become exhibitors the next time the show is held. It is always the case with the most common products in the district that there are very few shown, everyone apparently thinking that there will be so many exhibits that they will have no chance in the competition. This was the case with bananas. One bunch was brought but as it was badly bruised it was withdrawn. The only other exhibit in connection with bananas was a bunch of fig bananas. If the show is held again there will probably be a large number of exhibits in bananas.

Most of the exhibits were medium, and there was not a great number exhibited in each class. The vegetables were very moderate ; the roots and tubers a little better. A great discussion arose as to the merits of two exhibits in the yam section, the first prize being awarded to almost the smallest exhibit in size ; so referees had to be called in as it was evidently a case of quality against quantity, and it was hard to convince exhibitors that the largest yam should not get first prize. But it was coarse, mis-shapen, and with a large degree of waste on it and so should not have got the prize over the smaller, neater, and from all indications, the finer yam for the table. Finally, I took samples of both yams, and after cooking, there was no comparison,—the yam that won the first prize cooked firm and dry, while the other was a greeny yellow and was soapy. I wrote the result of this test to the Secretary of the Moore Town Branch, who was one of the questioners of the awards. In this connection I must mention that I was not the judge in the yam section, but was called in as referee.

The fruits were very ordinary except melons, curiously, as these fruits seldom appear at shows ; at this show they were very fine and large, and good to eat. The cocoa section was very moderate too, both pods and cured cocoa, but the cocoa prepared for use was better. Coffee was in better force and of better quality than cocoa. Beans and peas made a good show ; corn poor.

The meals and starch section was very good on the whole, especially banana meal. The oils too were very good, and also the lime juice. Tobacco made a better show than usual, both leaf tobacco and cigars.

Bee-keepers' exhibits too were out strong, and the show of wax was as fine as I have seen of late. In honey the competition was good although the production was not put up as nicely as it should be by some exhibitors and perhaps the best honey lost a prize because of this. Dairy exhibits and preserves were poor. Manufactured articles with the exception of jippi-jappa hats, of which there was a good show, were not in good competition. Fish pots showed that St. Margaret's Bay was a fishing place both river and sea There was a good display of ladies' work and school exhibits, the specimens of scholars' handwriting being exceedingly promising for the caligraphy of the future.

In the live stock class the horses were not of much account mules were a great deal better, very good indeed ; cattle medium There was an exceptionally good display of goats and pigs, but dog and poultry were poor, very poor.

There was a very good attendance, and on the whole the proceedings were very orderly. Special trains stopped at the show grounds but were not patronised from Port Antonio as much as we expected. That town does not seem to be accustomed to Agricultural Shows, and requires some stirring up. The President of the Branch Society, the Rev. P. A. Conahan, acted as Secretary and organised the show very well indeed. Mr. Cradwick, the Instructor gave his skilled assistance as much as possible, but a first show r

quires a longer working up by the Instructor than the time he had available.

Mr. Briscoe also attended the show and assisted in arranging and judging, while the newly-appointed Instructor, Mr. Wates, also attended and was broken into the work.

Substantial prize money was offered, and although the attendance was not as large as it ought to have been, it was fairly good, and the finances should work out all right.—JNO. BARCLAY, Secty.

COMMENTS.

CASSAVA.—For many years there has been a great talk about the possibilities of cassava cultivation in Jamaica, and enthusiasts have been of the belief that cassava could be as great a product here as sugar or even bananas, and much more certain than the latter; yet very little, however, has been done through all these years we have been working on this product.

Two starch factories have been established in the island with a moderate output. Lately, investigations were made by a representative of capitalists in the United States, commanding a great amount of capital and influence, with a view to buying cassava on a large scale here. These investigations were made under the auspices of the Society. Mr. Palache was detailed to conduct the representative through some of the best cassava growing districts. The representative was so much impressed with the great possibilities of cassava culture here that he informed us he could not help reporting favourably.

After conferring with possible growers on a large scale, and with small settlers actually engaged in cassava growing and with ourselves, it was, we thought, fixed that the minimum price that would get the industry taken up on a wide scale, was 1/6 per cwt. Now when the scheme has so far materialised that a representative of the company is here to organise the business, the offer made is 1/- per cwt. We have pointed out, however, that this price will not secure as big a trade as is required—that either the company should give 1/6, or start to grow cassava on a large scale themselves and show how it can be done at 1/-, or else give up the project here, which would be regrettable.

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SEEDS.—We have in stock for sale to members—Cow peas, seed corn, guinea corn, sorghum (for forage), alfalfa, velvet beans, Bengal beans, vegetable seeds. We expect fresh vegetable seed in September.

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THE FUTURE OF COCOA.—We have a stock of this book in hand, price 1/3 post free. It is well worth reading.

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POTATOES.—As usual we shall import seed potatoes to order for members of the Society and for Branch Societies this year. As some growers wish to experiment in planting as early as September,

we intend to import some "First Earlies" for them. We usually import "Second Earlies," and will do so for those who do not care to plant till the usual time—first and second weeks in November. It has to be remembered that "First Earlies" bear quickly but do not give such a good return as "Second Earlies," and the latter again do not yield so heavily as the late or main crop varieties.

We shall not have seed potatoes to sell to any chance enquirer; we must book orders by the middle of September for the potatoes to arrive end of October.

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Arts and Crafts.—The Institute of Jamaica intends to hold its usual competition in arts and crafts in 1910. An Exhibition will be held at the Institute in East Street, in February next, of the objects of art industries in the island. Anyone who wishes to take part in this competition, should communicate with the Secretary of the Institute, Orange Street, Kingston.

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Cotton.—The report from the British Cotton Growing Association on five bales of cotton we shipped on behalf of a member is as follows:—"Clean, fairly bright, staple long and strong, fairly fine, rather irregular, value 13½d."

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The British Cotton Growing Association has sent out the following notice:—"In consequence of numerous questions which have been raised by planters in respect of the tare deducted for weight of canvas, bands, etc., we should be obliged if, when forwarding further consignments, you would state on the bill of lading, the weight of the tare in all cases, in order that the same may be checked with the weights given in the final account sales."

* * *

Rubber.—The very slow growth when transplanted from bamboo pots, is due to the fact that the young plants have been grown in these pots. Unless the pots are large and roomy and the plants are transplanted before the roots fill the pots, there cannot be good results. We very much prefer the system of planting in plaited baskets. These are more expensive than bamboo pots, but they are much surer. The baskets can be planted just as they are, and the roots find their way through the interstices, but as a matter of fact the baskets rot very quickly. These baskets can be made of bamboo or withes or many other kind of materials suitable for the purpose in the island.

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Starch.—It is stated in the Queensland *Agricultural Journal*, page 313, June, 1909 (and curiously enough we saw the same stated also by a correspondent in a newspaper here), that the only starch factory in the world is in Florida, U.S.A. The statement is incorrect—there are two starch factories in Jamaica, one at Longville, May Pen, and one at Bengal, Rio Bueno; and there is talk of more

COCOA DISEASE.—We again draw the attention of our readers, who are growers of cocoa, to the booklet written by Mr. Stockdale, of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, which we mentioned in the JOURNALS for October and November, 1908, and May, 1909, as having on hand. We should have thought that there would have been quite a demand for this booklet, as it describes every known fungoid disease that cocoa is subject to in the West Indies. The price of the booklet is 4d.

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JOURNAL.—We regret that the July JOURNAL was so late in being issued, but the printer's note on it will show that the delay was not the fault of this office.

In the JOURNAL for September there will be articles on the following subjects :—Essential Oils, explaining the exact position of the market at the present time ; Rubber, giving results of an actual tapping test made in Portland ; fruit pests and house pests such as the House Fly and the Flea, and showing how these may be dealt with ; on Cocoa Disease ; an interesting paragraph concerning the behaviour of Navel Oranges in different lands ; fresh notes about Goats ; fresh notes on Poultry, dealing simply and practically with the various diseases that fowls are subject to here ; some practical notes on the treatment of other stock, etc.

* * *

DUTY ON BANANAS.—The Government of Costa Rica have fixed an export duty on bananas of one cent per bunch, and if the United Fruit Company does not increase the production from year to year, the duty will be two cents per bunch. The Company have agreed to these terms.

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SHOWS.—The following shows are arranged :—

Santa Cruz Mountains at Malvern		9th November
Appleton, at Siloah		27th December
Porus, at Porus	-	30th ,,
Darliston, at Enfield	-	3rd January, 1910
St. Faiths, at Glengoffe	-	24th March
Rio Minho, at Mears Pen	-	21st April
Christiana	-	,,

and probably the Jockey Club may arrange to hold a show at Knutsford Park, St. Andrew, in February.

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MILK.—We hear constant complaint from certain districts at different times of the year of the bad taste in milk. This may be due to certain weeds which occur in certain districts at certain times of the year—as for instance the guinea hen weed of the dry lowlands. It may also be due to mis-handling, *i.e.*, dirty udders being milked or dirty cowpens, especially after rain. Milk readily absorbs odours. Any rank taste so often noticed in milk may be got rid of by aeration. There are milk aerators to be bought, and those who supply milk on a large scale should get one. But apart from

his, milk can be aerated by simply pouring from one vessel to another in a clean, cool place.

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MEETING OF BRANCH SOCIETIES.—To suit the itinerary of the Travelling Instructor, Mr. Cradwick, the Fair Prospect Branch unanimously agreed to alter the date of the regular monthly meeting of their Society from the first to the third Saturday of the month, in order to facilitate the attendance of the Instructor, who is trying to get the Branches to arrange their meetings so that he can attend one every week. All the Instructors and Branches have been before asked to try and mutually arrange dates of meetings convenient to both. This will not always be practicable but can be tried as far as is practicable.

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RATS.—We hope all our readers continue to make constant effort to get rid of rats, the greatest of all agricultural pests, and dangerous disseminators of disease besides. A cat is invaluable about the house if it catches rats, but so few cats are ratters. We again repeat that a good ratting strain of cats is worth cultivating. Then sharp terriers trained to hunt rats are useful. Traps of two or three different kinds should be used in rotation, as rats soon become accustomed to one kind. Never let dogs nose the traps, as rats have a keen smell. Use different kinds of baits. Also set poison in bamboo pots about the field and use different kinds of poison. We are still hoping to get an easily handled and effective rat virus, that is effective under our conditions.

Mr. Cradwick has discovered, while spraying cocoa trees against fungoid troubles with Bordeaux mixture, that rats would not go on these trees. How long the effect of such a spraying, which if it thus serves several purposes, would be invaluable, will serve against rats is still to be found.

On clearing out a colony of rats lately by digging them out, when twelve were killed, we noticed the old buck rat to be simply swarming with fleas, which at once began to clear off the dead body as it cooled. Instantly we doused the beast with strong jeyes and water. Query—if we had in the usual way, simply flung the rats to the John Crows, where would the fleas have gone?—on to the John Crows perhaps.

* * *

We always like when men who have been in Jamaica for a spell of years and go elsewhere, continue to take a friendly interest in the island. Sir Henry Blake, who, after being Governor of Jamaica for nine years, was Governor of Ceylon and Hong Kong, both very important colonies, returned on a visit to Jamaica the other day, and we found him as enthusiastic about the beauty of the island and its agricultural possibilities as ever he was.

Then we find Mr. Fawcett, the late Director of Public Gardens, interesting himself about our timbers and the growing of rubber. We notice also that both Sir Henry Blake's and Mr. Fawcett's

names are mentioned in connection with the large scheme for sugar factories proposed to be established in the island, particulars of which have been published in the newspapers. We trust the whole scheme will be realised.

TOBACCO.

THE Sumatra tobacco coming to the American market is a wrapper leaf only. The United States imports about 40,000 bales (of 170 pounds) annually.

The total yield of the Deli district of Sumatra in 1900 was 223,000 bales, amounting to 36,915,000 pounds, valued at thirty-seven cents per pound.

The duty paid is $1.85 per pound on wrapper and $2.50 per pound on stemmed wrapper.

England is the chief buyer of Sumatra wrapper leaf; then, in order, Germany, Austria, the United States and France. The duty on Sumatra tobacco imported into the United States averages $12, 500,000 per annum.

The average yield of Sumatra tobacco is about 750 pounds per acre. There are about 50,000 acres planted in Sumatra.

The qualities of wrapper leaf are that the tobacco should be extremely thin, silky, elastic, of good body and burn, but without flavour and aroma. For the American market the colours must be "claro" and the sizes extraordinarily large.

The European market which absorbs eighty-three per cent. of the Sumatra crop, takes dark colours, and lengths mostly under sixteen inches. The American market takes all light colours and lengths over sixteen inches. The demand for "claro" is so strong in the United States that Sumatra planters are adopting hothouse methods to produce enormous leaves.

The average of the first grade of Sumatra wrappers is so high as to size and delicate silkiness and thinness that one pound of leaf will cover sixty-five to seventy square feet.

PROTECTION OF ANIMALS.

ON behalf of the Society for the Protection of Animals in Jamaica, I wish to thank the Board of Management of the Jamaica Agricultural Society for the grant of a page in the JOURNAL. We value this privilege highly, and hope that it will afford us opportunity to remove misconceptions. In various parts of the world Societies such as ours have sometimes been managed by faddists, and have earned the dislike of sensible people. We claim that we—Committee, active supporters, and subscribers generally—are sensible and business-like people, and we hope that our association with the Jamaica Agricultural Society will bring us into touch with more. Most penkeepers and small settlers know by experience that it is to their own profit that their animals should be well-cared-for; and any movement which teaches considerateness to the men who handle the stock, will clearly be to the advantage of the employers. We approach our subject from the human point of view, as good citizens we hope.

Our aim is to secure justice for animals—that they should suffer unnecessarily grieves us sore: that human beings should callously cause this suffering troubles us much more. For our purposes people may be classed under three heads:

1. Those who are born with a disposition to treat animals fairly. We offer them our respectful admiration.

2. Those who can be taught reasonable kindness; we concentrate our efforts on persuading them peacefully.

3. Those who will only treat animals fairly when compelled to do so. In dealing with them we are obliged to have recourse to prosecution; and persons in Class 2 undoubtedly learn useful lessons by seeing the punishment of such of their neighbours as are persistently cruel.

The matter may seem fairly simple on paper, but in practice any amount of difficulties arise and we need to have access to the best advice. We hope that gradually many of your members will agree to let us draw on their *considerable experience of this country and its people*. The opinion of a society is obviously that of the majority of its members, and if people suspect us of being faddists we cordially invite them to join us *and swamp us. As a matter of fact, we constantly find ourselves in complete* agreement with our would-be critics, and I should like, in concluding, to give as an instance of this the following extracts from a letter from a penkeeper: "Do not advocate the pampering of animals, or you will at once destroy your chances of successful work among the small settlers. They have to work hard and live hard, and they will not hear of their beasts of burden doing less, or faring better, than themselves or their children.

"Teach them rather to work them under proper conditions—that it is not the amount of work or the distance, so long as they get proper food and water at proper intervals, and their due periods of rest, which constitutes cruelty, but ill-fitting, ill-adjusted harness and tackling—that it is not always the weight of the load but the distribution and balance.

"I myself, have been accused of cruelty for driving my horses long journeys day after day, but they suffer less than a horse overdriven for five or ten miles, and fare better than many who never leave the pasture. Like the peasant, I have to work hard, and they have to work hard. Whatever they can do I can do, and whatever rest, food and comforts I can get they get. I was recently accused of gross cruelty for driving a limping horse from B. to M. I knew that if I left him behind he would not get the same care as at home. I drove him in stages, steadily, kept him off the stones wherever possible, and got him home.

"*More cruelty is often caused by the reins and bit than by the whips.*

"You will see that my views do not altogether coincide with some of your members; and I have never on that account joined your Society.

"Among the merchants, planters and penkeepers you have a sufficiently large field for subscribers. It is directly to their own interest to instil kindness to animals among the masses from which the caretakers of their own animals are drawn.

"I send you my subscription as a penkeeper."

May I venture to draw your readers' attention to the beauty of the closing sentence which I have just quoted?—K. H. BOURNE, Honorary Secretary, S.P.A.J (Mrs.)

BRANCH NOTES.

St. John's (St. Catherine).—A regular meeting of this Branch was held at Kitson Town on the 27th July, at 7 p.m. The president being absent, Mr. T. J. Richards, one of the Vice-Presidents, occupied the chair.

The Secretary gave digests of letters from J. H. Peck, Esq., M.D., as well as his replies. The contents of the letters were favourably discussed. Another letter from the general Secretary, also received attention. A letter from the Superintendent of Roads and Works for this parish (St. Catherine) was laid on the table. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:---"That this Society learns with regret, that only a few persons were present on the 6th inst., when this district was visited by the Chairman of the Parochial Board and the Superintendent of Roads and Works, for the purpose of making final arrangements with the inhabitants of this neighbourhood relative to the cleaning of the ponds at Aylmers and Belmont respectively. That this Society regrets that the letter from the Superintendent to Mr. Banton the Secretary, announcing the said visit, was written on the 5th inst., and being posted at Spanish Town on the 5th inst., could not be received in time. That the first post after the said letter was posted could not reach Guanaboa Vale before 9 a.m., on the 6th; consequently if the Secretary had even received the said letter on that day, it would have been actually impossible to call a representative meeting on that date. That the Secretary had made known that the work of cleaning the ponds would have been commenced on the 12th. That a certain number turned out, but that it is actually impossible for the work to be done for the price offered, viz., one shilling for 64 cubic feet. That it is fresh in the memory of many of the members that work of a similar nature and in a soil that is friable---not clayey---could not be done for less than 2/- per 64 cubic feet. That a piece of earth 8 feet long, 8 feet broad and one foot deep (64 cubic feet) is worth 2/. That this Society views with much concern the unnecessary delay and prays that the Board will see that we are not unreasonable in our request." On the motion of the Secretary, the meeting adjourned till the 24th August. ---S. A. BANTON, Secretary.

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Aberdeen (Portland).—On June 12th, the usual monthly meeting of this Branch was held, Mr. J. E. Bailey, Vice-president, presided. There were present the Treasurer, Secretary and nine other gentlemen. After the reading and confirmation of the minutes, the Chairman urged on the members to keep together and to encourage others to join. There was a discussion on the finances of the Branch, after which it was decided to give 30/- of the funds towards the St. Margaret's Bay Agricultural Show. This vote, with 12/- given by individual members, brought up the amount given by the Aberdeen Branch towards the St. Margaret's Bay Show to two guineas. To this amount the Secretary, who was a member of the Show Committee, added one guinea. It was further decided that some exhibits should be sent from here to the show. This was accordingly done; and of the few articles exhibited eight prizes were won---five first and three second prizes.

On July 8th, at about 4 p.m., Messrs. Cradwick and Wates, Agricultural Instructors, arrived here and remained in the district until Saturday evening, 10th instant. On Friday morning they visited the cocoa field of Mr. John A. Harris, and after pruning some of his cocoa trees, they started washing the trees with a mixture of lime and sulphate of iron. Leaving Mr. Harris to continue the work begun, the Instructors proceeded in the afternoon to Fishbrook for the purpose of tapping some rubber trees on Mr. E. Massy's property. The tapping, however, was not done at Fishbrook, but it was done at Altamont, and the report they gave goes to show that the trees tapped possessed a good quantity of sap, and very good rubber. Passing the night at Moore Town again, the Instructors returned to Mr. Harris's cocoa field on Saturday morning, when Mr. Cradwick procured a barrel of lime and spread it over parts of the field for the effect on the plants to be noted later. The Instructors agreed with each other that that field be kept as one in which instructions should be given from time to time. In the afternoon the usual monthly meeting was held, Mr. Bailey, as usual, was in the chair. Mr. Cradwick introduc-

l Mr. Wates to the members present as the future Instructor for the strict, he (Mr. Cradwick) will, however, pay occasional visits. The eeting was opened as usual with the reading and confirmation of the inutes. Besides the Instructors, there were eleven members present. he Secretary then proceeded to read a letter from Mr. Barclay *re* yams , the St. Margaret's Bay Show and his reply to the letter of Mr. Baray. He also read one from Mr. O. Rickman respecting the cart road to attie's River. These were discussed and decided on. It was felt that) one here would attempt to send large yams to shows except a decision as arrived at agreeing to award prizes for size as well as quality of ıms. As regards the road is was decided to send a petition to the Govrnment on the subject through our Member of the Legislative Council. [r. Cradwick then addressed the members respecting the Prize Holdings heme, the use of lime in cocoa fields and the Buff Bay Show ; in the later case going through the list of prizes and urging us to exhibit. Mr. Vates pr[illegible] us monthly. His next visit to be announced ıter. A [illegible] to the two Instructors was moved and carried. 'he meeting was then closed.---H. W. HAY, Secretary.

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Port Royal Mountains (St. Andrew).---The general annual meeting of his Branch was held on the show ground on Saturday, July 24th. In the bsence of the President, the Rev. C. H. Coles, Mr. W. G. Thomson, Vice-resident, presided. Besides the members there were Messrs. J. Briscoe nd J. W. Crisp. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Rev. C. H. Coles, President ; Rev. N. A. Baquie and Mr. W. G. Thomson, Vice-presidents ; Mr. D. H. Willis, Treasurer ; and Mr. C. L. A. Rennalls, Secretary. The Managing Committee to consist of the officers of the Society together with Messrs R. S. Henry, R. Tait, Jacob Hall, James Jacobs, J. S. McDermott, Chas. Davis, Thomas Jackson, J. Whitworth, Robert Simons, Isaac Henry, James Willacy, E. A. Walker, and C. C. Ireland. It was decided that any member of the Committee who did not qualify within the three months' limit, should not be retained on the Managing Committee. It was decided to re-open the question of the acquisition of the New Haven lands, and the Secretary was requested to make the necessary enquiries. It was decided to approach the parent Society with a view to getting "Sir Gerald" to serve in this district during the next season. Mr. J. Briscoe, Travelling Instructor, promised to secure the cocoa plants promised to the members of this Branch some time ago by the Director of Agriculture, several members took advantage of the offer and gave in their names for a supply. Nearly two thousand were asked for. After other agricultural matters were dealt with the meeting adjourned, when the Show Committee met and proceeded to make final arrangements for the show to be held on the 5th August. It was decided that the prizes for driving competitions should be the same as those in the other horsekind classes. The Secretary intimated that Mr. W. G. Clark had given, beside his regular subscription, a special prize of half-a-guinea for the best-kept settlers' horse and outfit.---C. L. A. RENNALLS, Secretary.

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Santa Cruz Mountains (St. Elizabeth).---The meeting of this Branch on the 16th July, 1909, was called to order at 4 p.m. In the absence of the President, the Vice-president, Mr. R. Lawrence, occupied the chair. On account of a heavy downpour of rain just before the meeting the attendance was small. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Minutes of the meeting of the Managing Committee on the 24th June, were also read and confirmed. A letter was read from the President resigning his position as President of the Society and also asking to be excused from serving on the Managing Committee. It was moved by Mr. Palache and seconded by Rev. Ashton, that Mr. Maxwell be written to

asking him to reconsider his determination to resign and to let the Society still have the benefit of his leadership. The following were elected members, viz. : Mr. John Blake, Misses Land and Stewart. Correspondence from the Secretary of the parent Society was read. It was moved by Mr. R. Lawrence and seconded by Mr. A. R. Knight and carried *nem. con.* Resolved : That the Santa Cruz Mountains Branch of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, desires to place on record its entire confidence in Mr. Palache, the present Agricultural Instructor for this district, and desires that his services be retained for the districts covered by this Branch and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of the parent Society. The Society instructed the Secretary to write to Mr. Fraser of St. Ann's Bay, thanking him for his subscription and stating that only one show will be held in the parish this year. The members were urged to work together for the success of the show. The Secretary to write to Dr. Calder thanking him for valuable hints and stating that most of his suggestions have been adopted. Secretary to write to Dr. Todd informing him that the Society is quite satisfied with his competency as a judge for horses, therefore his name has been placed on the list as a judge. The Secretary was ordered to write to Mr. Barclay asking him to let the Society have the loan of the tents for the show. Mr. Palache presented the Society with some hand-books, which will form the nucleus of a library. The thanks of the Society were accorded Mr. Palache for his interest in the Society. Mrs. Ashton was elected librarian, and rules are to be framed for the lending of books to the members. The printed rules were presented to the members free of cost, and the Treasurer was empowered to pay the cost of printing. The Society voted five pounds to the funds of the show. There being no other business, the meeting abjourned.---S. A. BLYTHE, Secretary.

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Ulster Spring (Trelawny).—The monthly meeting came off on the 14th July. The President presided. There was a fairly good turn out of members, and Mr. H. Q. Levy, the newly appointed Instructor for St. James and Trelawny, was accorded a hearty welcome. Read letter from Mr. Barclay apprising the Branch of Mr. Levy's appointment. Balance sheet for show was presented. Total receipts, £69 11s. 2d. ; expenditure, £63 18s. 4d ; balance in hand, £5 12s. 10d. (Cheers). Subscriptions amounting to £2 are still to be sent in. This will increase the receipts to £71 11s. 2d., and the balance to £7 12s. 10d. The President thanked Mr. J. E. Neita for the use of the ground, and the various committees came in for their share of praise. The Ground Committee especially, worked strenuously, and when the history of the first Ulster Spring Show is written the achievements of Messrs. J. G. Pile, J. E. Neita, Ed. Taylor and E. Arnett, will stand out in bold relief. On the motion of Mr. Neita, seconded by the Secretary, a vote of thanks was tendered to Dr. Wilson for his admirable service at the gate. On the motion of Mr. South, seconded by the President and supported by Mr. P. U. Munro, a vote of thanks was tendered the Secretary for his efforts in connection with the show. The President in a neat speech, introduced Mr. H. Q. Levy, who was received with enthusiasm. Mr. Levy expressed his pleasure at being present, his one regret being the unavoidable absence of Mr. Arnett. There was a fair sprinkling of lady-members, whose presence caused him to compliment the Society on that score, especially as when the ladies take an interest in agriculture, there will be more and better-kept kitchen gardens. He referred to the Prize Holdings Scheme and in glowing terms extolled its excellencies. He said the rapid progress in things agricultural made by the Gibraltar district, is due to a very great extent, to the zest with which this scheme was taken up. Intending competitors were instructed to send in their names to the Secretary and their fields would be visited. He exhorted the members not to rely on the fertility of the soil. The richest soils get exhausted and manuring becomes an ab-

olute necessity. Here he advised the rearing of small stock, which will onsiderably increase the value of holdings. He advocated the growing of cocoa and pledged himself to do all he can to enhance the cultivation of crops suited to these districts. At the close of an instructive lecture, he ntimated that he was prepared to answer questions the members may ike to put. Mr. Munroe asked about the curing of cocoa and for a comparison of the soils of St. Mary and those around Ulster Spring. Both questions were very intelligently answered. On the motion of Mr. Munroe, seconded by the Secretary, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Levy. The Secretary was instructed to write to Mrs. Myers *re* amount due to the Society. It was decided to begin future meetings at 8 p.m. The meeting adjourned.—G. W. MILLER, Secretary.

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Porus (Clarendon).—The usual monthly meeting of this Branch was held on the 5th of July, 1909, in the Church of England Schoolroom. The Vice-Presidents being absent, the Secretary called the meeting to order and Mr. V. N. Magnus was appointed Chairman. Thirteen members were present. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was read from the Secretary of the parent Society, also Mr. J. T. Palache. A letter from Mr. Barclay inviting delegates from Branch Societies, was read. It was agreed that Mr. W. A. Morgan should go to attend the half-yearly meeting of the parent Society. Mr. Hylton was asked to read his paper on soils, but he asked that his paper be put off until next meeting as the audience was small, which was caused through the inclemency of the weather. At this stage of the meeting Mr. Palache (the Instructor) was asked to give his lecture, this being his second visit with us since the commencement of the year. The subject of his remarks was the soil and its preparation. He said that tillage, the breaking up of the soil, is carried out too carelessly in this country, and it is not wise in clearing out ground to burn it with fire. He recommended the saving of manure. He said the ordinary system of cultivation was bad. Instead of throwing up ground which had been worked for two years, he would recommend mulching and manuring and forking, and instead of getting twelve bushels of corn to the acre we would get fifty. He suggested drainage and the use of lime; that forking is necessary every season. At the close of the address the Chairman spoke of the special way in which it was delivered and he hoped every one would be benefited by the remarks. Mr. Crosbie asked what the depth and width of the drains should be: the reply was about two to three feet by two feet and about one chain apart. A vote of thanks was moved by the Chairman, seconded by S. A. Hendricks and agreed to. Fourteen booklets were presented to the Society by Mr. Palache. It was decided that a Show Committee meeting be called on the 19th inst. The next regular meeting will be on August 2nd at 6 p.m.—C. ROWLAND, Secretary.

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Stewart Town (Trelawny).—The regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held on Thursday evening, July 29th 1909, commencing at 8 o'clock, Mr. John Stockhausen in the chair. H. Q. Levy, Agricultural Instructor, and thirteen members were present. The minutes of the last meeting, July 1st, were read and confirmed. The report of the Committee appointed to make the preliminary arrangements for the Agricultural Show to take place in March next year, was submitted and adopted. Several of the members promised subscriptions. A published list will, in due course, appear. By the end of September it is hoped the prize list will be prepared and ready for printing. The names of several gentlemen in the various districts around were mentioned to be written to asking their co-operation. In a very enthusiastic manner the Instructor, Mr. Levy, advised the members to co-operate in making the Branch a success. They must show a healthy rivalry in improving their holdings. The com- [illegible] if the members of the Branch endeavoured to

improve their cultivations. He was pleased to observe some signs of improvement. He also noted the pleasure and satisfaction it afforded him to see how nicely the constabulary station was kept. That was an example. In the same way every person in the district could keep in a healthy manner his surroundings. He remarked on the remarkable change that had in recent years taken place in the Gibraltar district of St. Ann, owing to the active, intelligent interest the people there had taken to improve their holdings. They had been profited by the instructions given by the Agricultural Instructor, Mr. Arnett. He (Mr. Levy) expected to give a fair share of his time to this district. His services were at their disposal, and they must make use of him. He intimated that he would be in the district on Monday, August 30th, to give practical demonstrations in any cultivation to which he might be invited. On the invitation of Mr. Joseph Hall, he promised to visit his field on that day to demonstrate. Mr. Levy stated that he would be very pleased to meet as many of the cultivators as can possibly be present there on Monday, August 30th. The Secretary was instructed to communicate with the Ulster Spring Branch asking their co-operation in the prospective show.—JOSIAH JOHNSON, Secretary.

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Christiana (Manchester).---The next meeting of this Branch Agricultural Society will be held as usual, in the Court House, Christiana, on Friday, 1st October. Two lectures will be given, both on subjects of great importance to the district. Mr. J. H. Lewison, the Schoolmaster at Walderston, who is well known in Manchester as an excellent and practical cultivator, will speak on Coffee Growing, and Mr. Alfred Walder, who runs a small central factory at Walderston and buys a considerable quantity of coffee, either in the cherry or parchment, and prepares it for market with success, will speak on Coffee Curing. There will thus be two thoroughly practical men speaking on subjects that they are intimately acquainted with and in a practical way. Members of this Branch and other friends should turn out to this meeting to hear what is said, and perhaps take part in the discussion.---F. WEISS, Secretary.

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Trinity Ville (St. Thomas).—The regular monthly meeting of this Branch was held during the month of June. There were present: Messrs. W. A. R. Carr, President; J. Briscoe, Travelling Instructor, and 13 others. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. W. G. McLean, A. S. Downie and J. D. Anderson, were enrolled as new members. Subscription received from one member. Arising out of the minutes, the Secretary stated that he did not forward resolution *re* "Branch Notes," to Mr. Barclay, as the JOURNAL came up the following day after the meeting and in which a lengthy report he sent was published. There is also a note with reference to "Branch Notes" in general. This explanation was approved of and on the motion of the President and Mr. J. A. Ross, the resolution was rescinded. The following letter from the Hon. Henry Cork, M.L.C., for St. Catherine, dated 10th May, was read: "Many thanks for your kind letter containing a resolution of appreciation, passed at a meeting of the Trinity Ville Branch of the Agricultural Society. Please convey my thanks to the members of the Society, and tell them it always gives me pleasure to help any part of the island where I think I can do any good." Letters were also read from Mr. Barclay containing useful information and dealt with in the usual way. The suggestion that this Branch might subscribe as a Branch to one of the newspapers, so that we could follow all the agricultural notes, viz.: the reports of the meeting of the Board of Management in full; the reports of the Instructors and the reports of the various Branch Societies, did not meet with approval as it was thought expensive. Read a letter from Mr. Briscoe. The Secretary was asked to write Mr. Barclay of the fact that the JOURNALS appear to be circulated fully two weeks before

reaching us, and as a proof extracts have been in all the newspapers every month before they reach us. Our Branch being one of the oldest and in good standing, should never get such treatment. The Parochial Board wrote in reply to the resolution forwarded *re* trained nurse, enclosing a copy of the rules relating to pupil nurses, stating if the Society will name a young woman, the Board is prepared to recommend her to the Lying-in-hospital to be trained as a nurse. The matter was left over for next meeting. The President called upon the Instructor to explain the Prize Holdings Scheme, and in reply he dealt minutely with the conditions set out. He was pleased for the seasonable showers of rain which will here tend to brighten up the cultivations for the event. He also referred to the death of Mr. E. Grant. The usual vote of thanks was accorded the Instructor. The month of November was fixed for the judging of the Prize Holdings Competition, on the suggestion of Mr. Briscoe. Meeting adjourned. Members who have not yet paid their subscription are kindly asked to do so.—J. T. EDMAN, Secretary.

[The newspapers get advance copies of the JOURNAL: hence extracts may be published by them a good time before the JOURNAL reaches every Branch Society.—DD.]

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Darliston (Westmoreland).—The quarterly meeting of this Branch was held at 9 a.m., at the Enfield Schoolroom on Friday, 23rd July. There were present: J. W. Mennell, Esq., President; H. D D. Mennell, Esq., Agricultural Instructor, and 13 members. The minutes of the last regular and special meetings were read by the Secretary and confirmed. A letter from John Barclay, Esq., Secretary of the Jamaica Agricultural Society, was read by H. D. D. Mennell, Esq., suggesting that the show of this Branch be held at such a time so as not to come into contact with the Santa Cruz Show. The President after making a few comments on the subject—it was unanimously decided that the show be postponed to Monday, 3rd January, 1910, when it will be a public holiday. It was stated that the meeting held on the 23rd ultimo, should have been held on the 16th, but was put off owing to circumstances which could not have been avoided. It was also decided that all entries for the show shall be closed on the 24th December, next. As there were no other matters arising out of the minutes of previous meetings for discussion, the Instructor referred to the May number of the JOURNAL and pointed out to the members present, the harm done by pear trees when allowed to rot in their fields and the roots not destroyed afterwards. He also pointed out the way in which pigs should be kept. The Instructor then resumed his seat; J. R. Williams, Esq., then got up and addressed the meeting in simple but forcible terms. He asked the members present not to be discouraged at the seeming failures of the hat industry, but to try to encourage the keeping up of the industry in their neighbourhood, and he hoped that ere long a market may be opened for same. He asked the members to improve their district by more improved methods of cultivation, and to devote more labour in preparing the soil. He told them that this can easily be done and safely be carried out if following the principles laid down in the book entitled "Suggestions for School Gardens." This book can easily be got from the Agricultural Department through any of the Branch Societies or any bookseller. He further explained that Agricultural Societies will bring and bind all classes together; and then if all the people will cling together no obeahman would be allowed to visit the district. He concluded by telling the members to devote their time to make more of what they have and then, and only then, will they be repaid for their labour. A vote of thanks was moved by the Agricultural Instructor, for the able and instructive way in which Mr. Williams had addressed the meeting. This was unanimously carried by all the members standing. Mr. Williams replied in suitable and appropriate language. The President after making a few well-chosen remarks, adjourned the meeting to Friday, 15th October next, at 9 a.m., at the usual place.—J. H. HEDLEY, Secretary.